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The Montclarion, April 05, 2007

The Montclarion

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The Montclarion

The Student Voice of Montclair State University Since 1928

Vol. 86 Issue 23

April 5, 2007

www.themontclarion.org

THURSDAY: 46°

FRIDAY: 47°

SATURDAY: 45°

SUNDAY: 4°

MONDAY: 50°

Opposing Sides in Rec. Center Battle Conflict on the Initial Termination, Lawsuit May Ensnue

Shayna Jacobs
News Editor

The takeover of the \$22 million student Recreation Center's completion will remain in limbo until possibly next week, when a conference between the two parties may take place. The controversy has become a potential cause for litigation as both sides are adamantly disputing whether the university was justified in its termination of the project's general contractor, Controlled Construction, Inc., of Fairfield.

ARCH Insurance, based in Philadelphia, is Controlled's surety. Negotiations between the representatives of university, ARCH and Controlled have been taking place since the termination of the con-

tract on Feb. 15.

Communication between the parties is at this point is strictly between legal counsel. Representing the university is deputy attorney general from the attorney general's office, said Greg Bressler, associate vice president for university facilities. According to university counsel Valerie Van Baaren, ARCH is currently changing its representation because its initial appointment faced a conflict.

At the March 28 University

SEE 'REC. CENTER' P. 5



Matt McCullough | The Montclarion

Construction on the Rec. Center has been at a standstill since the Feb. 15 termination of the project's general contractor. ARCH Insurance, the surety of the project, indicated to the counsel for the university that they would like to convene in person next week to discuss the takeover.

Conference Presents Different Faces of Peace

Douglas McIntyre
Chief Copy Editor

"People seem overwhelmed by the concept of peace," said Esmilda Abreu, director of Equity and Diversity Programs and the Women's Center. "The human race seems incapable of peace."

But Abreu, along with Jhon Velasco and Brian Yankouski of the Center for Non-Violence and Prevention Programs, created the Peace Conference, held Monday, to end that idea.

This was not only the first peace conference to be held by MSU, but it was the first peace conference held in the state of New Jersey.

According to Yankouski, there were about 130 people at the event. "It was terrific," he said. "Professors offered extra credit to come, and some brought their entire classes."

Because other schools and organizations were involved, participants were asked to register. It also aided in scheduling the rooms for various discussions held by students, MSU faculty and even TCNJ professors.

"People seem overwhelmed by the concept of peace ... The human race seems incapable of peace."

Esmilda Abreu
Director of Equity and Diversity Programs

CNVPP had 110 people register online, but walk-ins were expected and welcome. "Thirty to 40 people came in unregistered," Yankouski said. "We told people to come in from the check-in tables out front."

The Peace Conference was meant to kick off Peace Week, an annual week of events hosted by CNVPP and involving many student organizations. CNVPP, according to Velasco, the director, has

SEE 'PEACE' P. 4

Pulitzer Poet Reads *Blizzard* and *Camel* at MSU

Lauren Uschmann
Staff Writer

Mark Strand, a Pulitzer Prize-winning poet, was here for a poetry reading on Wednesday, April 4. He read a few poems from his Pulitzer Prize-winning book, *Blizzard of One*, and from his newest, *Man and Camel*.

Strand was introduced by Dr. James Nicosia. Nicosia said that Strand's "allusions are rich and wide ranging," and that "learning how to read Strand's poetry is learning how to read poetry," as though Strand's words are the epitomization of poetry itself.

Nicosia went on to say that during a recent telephone conversation with Strand, he described his reluctance to publicize his own poems.

Strand replied, "Well I think that's good. The world needs less poetry." Taken with a grain of salt, Nicosia went on to say that Strand's poetry is "indigenously comfortable."

After being introduced, Mark Strand commented on Nicosia's former claims of Strand's poetry being compared to that of the talented Emily Dickinson.

Although Nicosia had said that Strand may not agree with the likeness between their works, Strand remarked, "I don't mind being associated with Emily Dickinson."

Strand went on to say that as a young child and student he used to make lists of rhymes, such as Hebrew and eyebrow.

Strand began the poetry read-

ing with, "Sleeping with One Eye Open," in which he said, "It's my night to be rattled, saddled with spooks," which has the singsong quality of a child's rhyme, but you are welcomed with the distinctive feeling that these are the words of a truly talented poet.

Strand had some advice for his audience. Prior to reading his poem "Eating Poetry" he said that you should not "go around telling people you have three great lines," as they will always request more.

Strand said of his progression throughout the literary world that he started out very ambitious, but has ended up "jaded."

He was once criticized for his repetitious nature, in which he replied, "I didn't like that."

His literary response was that of a purely repetitive poem.

The poet's works could be interpreted as autobiographical, but he said, "living my life is hard enough, but writing about it would be boring."

The comedic poet rifled through his collection of poems and remarked on their order.

He said, "There is no method to this madness."

He also let his audience in with his statement of "I am not very good at telling stories. That's why I don't do this very often."

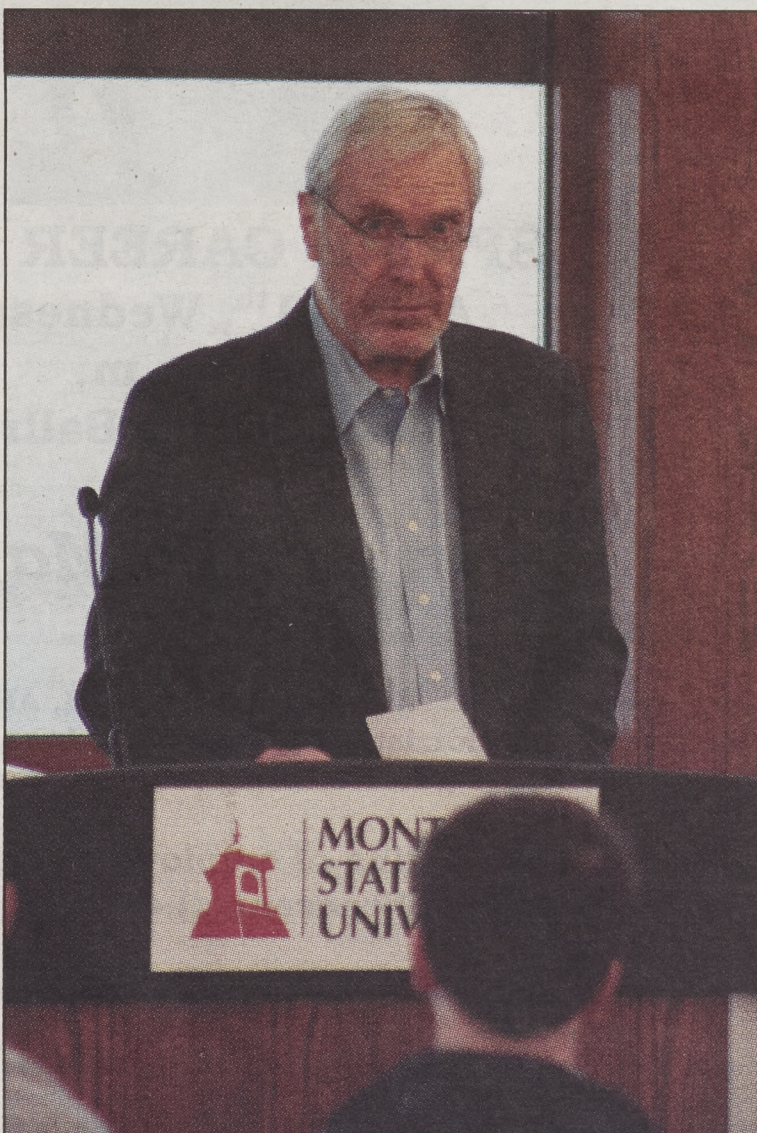
Later, Strand moved onto questions and offered any answers that he could. A local teacher asked Strand his advice to his class on learning to really love the literary works that they are assigned.

Strand suggested that the students learn to love the language first.

He used his example of the movie *Shakespeare in Love*, and says that

he liked this movie because it was very easy to become acquainted with the language.

SEE 'POET' P. 5



Matt McCullough | The Montclarion

Mark Strand visited MSU for a poetry reading on Wednesday. The poet and Columbia University professor read selections from his books.

'Stop Racism' Event in Williams Held in Response to Village Racial Vandalisms of Late

Robert Aitken
Assistant Sports Editor

On Wednesday afternoon, a group of students and staff gathered in the Williams Hall lounge in the Village Apartments for a program called "Stop Racism." The panel attending the event included Sergeant Kieran Barrett of the Montclair State University Police, Jhon Velasco from The Center for Non-Violence & Prevention Programs, and Esmilda Abreu, Director of the Women's Center. Abreu and Velasco also brought up their involvement in a relatively new organization, called the Bias Response Task Force.

The organization has existed for about a year and is in place to look for the best interests of people in issues of race, color, gender, sexual orientation and religious views. They feel as if the organization has the responsibility to defend the social rights of all students. "If the community stops feeling that they have the right to respond, we will have lost the power," said Abreu.

This program was inspired based upon the recent hate crimes going on. In this semester alone, three such acts have happened, all of which occurred in the Village Apartments. The first act, which was reported on Feb. 7, was a derogatory slur directed toward the African-American community written on a person's door.

Last week, the second act occurred when previous writing on the wall was added onto to create yet another African-American slur. The most recent occurred on early Wednesday morning, when a homosexual reference was written on a wall in the Village. Shortly after these attacks began, signs in Bohn

Hall began to appear on every floor. The sign stated: "Attention Community: Please be advised someone has been identified in our area playing vulgar pranks. Be sure to keep your doors locked at ALL TIMES."

At the program, the panel made the seating arrangements into a circle, opening the program up to an open discussion. Among the attending were Dean Rose Mary Howell, Director of Bohn Hall Arian Bryant and six CAs from various buildings in the Village. Instead of talking about racism directly, the program asked the question: "What forces people to be racist?"

It was touched upon that racism is a natural feeling and cannot be avoided. "We all have some form of racism and prejudice," said Velasco. However, the main point of the program is to show that even if people do have racist thoughts, the solution is to not let people's opinions affect the safety of students. "There has to be a level of stability and respect," said Velasco.

The program acknowledged the attempts already in place, such as the skits put on by the Peer Leaders at Freshman Orientation and the required New Student Experience class in the first semester of every student's freshman year. Comparing to other schools, Montclair is more diverse than most. At the same time, Montclair has a relatively low crime rate.

"I think that Montclair is moving in the right direction," said Bryant. The next step for the organization will be next week, when they will hold a rally in the Student Center Quad. The rally will be called "Take Back the Night," and will include students with candles in the dark.



Mike Johnson | The Montclairion

Participants Jhon Velasco (top left), Sergeant Kieran Barrett (right), Dean Rose Mary Howell (bottom left), Patricia Lelli (middle) and Esmilda Abreu (right) at "Stop Racism."



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MSU Campus Calendar

THURSDAY, 5	SUNDAY, 8
OSAU: Kolor Explosion, Memorial Auditorium, 7 p.m.	Easter Sunday
ASSIST: Coffeehouse, SC Rath, 9 p.m.	MONDAY, 9
	Sisters On Your Side, SC 421, 5-6 p.m.
	Hillel: Passover Seder, SC Dining Room, 7 p.m.
	NASO: Genocide Awareness, SC 419, 8 p.m.
FRIDAY, 6	TUESDAY, 10
Good Friday, No Classes	Blood Drive, SC 12-6 p.m.
	NASO: African Fare, SC Quad, 2:30-5 p.m.
SATURDAY, 7	WEDNESDAY, 11
No School	UAASO: Undoukal-Field Day, SC Quad, 12-4 p.m.
	Japan Club: Anime Night, SC Commuter Lounge, 8 p.m.

SGA Notes

-Psychology Club appropriation passed.
-WAVES was rechartered.
-Greek Week appropriation passed.
-Japan Club appropriation passed.

Montclarion

The Montclarion is a freely distributed newspaper providing one copy per person. Additional copies are \$0.25

Corrections

The author of "Innovative Ballet Makes the Cut" on p. 14 in last week's issue was Trevor Cahill.

Advertising

Off-Campus Businesses & Organizations

Size	Measurements	Price	Color (Limited Availability)**
Eighth-Page	4.9" X 3.75"	\$80.00	\$95.00
Quarter-Page	4.9" X 7.5"	\$125.00	\$150.00
Half-Page	10" X 7.5"	\$200.00	\$250.00
Full-Page	10" X 16"	\$310.00	\$400.00

University Offices & Non-SGA Organizations

Size	Measurements	Price	Color (Limited Availability)**
Eighth-Page	4.9" X 3.75"	\$40.00	\$55.00
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Half-Page	10" X 7.5"	\$132.00	\$170.00
Full-Page	10" X 16"	\$210.00	\$275.00

SGA Chartered Organizations

Size	Measurements	Price	Color (Limited Availability)**
Eighth-Page	4.9" X 3.75"	\$32.00	\$45.00
Quarter-Page	4.9" X 7.5"	\$63.00	\$85.00
Half-Page	10" X 7.5"	\$105.00	\$150.00
Full-Page	10" X 16"	\$168.00	\$215.00

Classifieds: ->30wds. \$10. 31-40wds. \$20. 41-50wds. \$30 Add to the website: \$3 (Prices are all "per-week")

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For more info, go to www.TheMontClarion.org, or call 973-655-5237

**Color ads are subject to availability, and are sold on a "first-come, first-served basis".

The Police Report:

Thefts Scurry Across MSU

3/27/07 - A student reported the theft of his cell phone from his unsecured gym bag in the Panzer Gym hallway.

3/27/07 - A student reported the theft of his laptop computer and \$80 cash from an unsecured locker while in Panzer Gym.

3/27/07 - A student reported being harassed by another student while at the Montclair State University Bookstore. Student does not wish to press criminal charges at this time.

3/28/07 - A student reported the theft of his iPod nano from Panzer Gym.

3/28/07 - An MSU employee reported the theft of five diabetic needles from Panzer Gym.

3/29/07 - A student reported the theft of his watch and \$60 cash from his unsecured bag in the Panzer Gym hallway.

3/30/07 - Two students reported burglary/thefts to their vehicles while parked in Lot 45.

3/30/07 - A student reported bias crime graffiti on a picnic table between Calcia Hall and Sprague Library. The victim has subsequently been offered all University Services. The case is under investigation.

3/31/07 - Shattered glass was discovered in the shuttle bus stop between Alice Paul Hall and Basie Hall.

4/1/07 - A student reported theft of her cell phone and vehicle key while in Blanton Hall.

Anyone who has information regarding these incidents is urged to call the police station from any campus phone at T-I-P-S (8477). All calls are strictly confidential.

Local News

COMPILED BY DIANA SALAMEH

EGG HARBOR TOWNSHIP - Authorities searched the home of a man who used to work at a motel near where the bodies of four prostitutes were found in a drainage ditch last fall, according to a law enforcement official.

The search began Monday and continued into Tuesday morning at a house in Alloway Township, Salem County.

The owner of the house is a former employee of the Golden Key Motel, one of a string of seedy motels on the Black Horse

Pike just outside of Atlantic City, where the bodies of the women were found Nov. 20.

NEWARK - One man was killed and four others were injured in shootings in Newark early Tuesday morning, police said.

Detectives are also investigating the death of an unidentified woman whose body was found in a garbage can by construction workers last night.

The shootings started shortly after midnight, when a man was hit in the shoulder at 466

N. 4th St., police said. He is expected to survive.

TRENTON - After a nearly seven-hour rescue operation by emergency responders on Monday, a woman reportedly weighing more than 700 pounds was extricated from the second floor of her home and taken to the hospital.

At around 5:45 p.m., rescue workers were called to the woman's home in the 100 block of Huff Avenue on reports that she had fallen and injured herself in

the bathroom.

Firefighters dismantled the bathroom, opening up a wall and enlarging the window.

They lowered the woman out of the bathroom window and down a ladder in a large rescue basket, emergency responders said.

The woman was removed from her home at around 12:35 a.m., officials said.

She then was carried by a team of rescuers into a special ambulance ordered from Monmouth County.

National News

COMPILED BY DIANA SALAMEH

REDWOOD CITY, CALIF. - The reigning Mr. Universe faces assault and resisting arrest charges following a run-in with police who mistakenly believed the diabetic bodybuilder was intoxicated.

Doug Burns, 43, was sprayed with Mace and wrestled to the ground by officers who were summoned to a movie theater Sunday night by a security guard, authorities said.

Burns, who was trying a new diabetes drug that night, said Monday he was preparing to see a film when he felt dizzy-

ness and poor vision — a sign of low blood sugar — and hurried to a snack counter.

MILWAUKEE, WIS. - More than anything, David and Regina Bakala wanted to become American citizens. They claimed their lives depended on it.

Now they are closer to that goal. An immigration judge in Chicago granted asylum to the Congolese couple Monday after hearing their pleas that they would be tortured or killed if deported to their African home-

land.

They sobbed after the ruling and cried again at a news conference at St. Mary Parish in suburban Milwaukee, which supported the couple's efforts.

RIVERSIDE, CALIF. - A former pizza delivery man accused of being one of the most active serial killers in Los Angeles history was headed to trial on charges of murdering 10 women and the unborn fetus of one victim.

Authorities charged Chester D. Turner, 40, in October 2004,

with the slayings after his DNA was linked to the women, who were killed between 1987 and 1998.

Police allege Turner accosted most of his victims on a street in crime-plagued South Los Angeles and raped and strangled them before dumping their bodies.

Prosecutors say they plan to show jurors DNA connections analysts made between Turner and the 10 women.

The trial is set to begin Tuesday. Turner has pleaded not guilty to the charges.

International News

COMPILED BY DIANA SALAMEH

ZIMBABWE - The state media began its campaign attack on Western diplomats accused of supporting government opponents Tuesday with a seeming death threat against British Embassy political officer Gillian Dare.

The state Herald, a government mouthpiece, called Dare "the purse holder and financier" of an alleged violence and terror campaign by the opposition Movement for Democratic Change.

"It will be a pity for her family to welcome her home at Heathrow Airport in a body bag just like some of her colleagues from Iraq and Afghanistan," wrote David Samuriwo in an article prominently displayed on the newspaper's leader page.

It said Dare, "labeled in some sections of the media as a British spy, could one day be caught in the crossfire as she plays night nurse to arrested MDC hooligans."

The threat was the strongest

against a Western diplomat during escalating political unrest in the southern African country.

UKRAINE - Thousands of the prime minister's supporters streamed into the Ukrainian capital Tuesday to protest the president's order to dissolve parliament and call early elections, ending a shaky political truce with his chief rival.

The decision created the most serious political crisis here since the 2004 Orange Revolution.

Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich's supporters expanded a tent camp outside the parliament, while those of President Viktor Yushchenko announced plans to set up a stage in Independence Square — echoes of the mass protests more than two years ago that helped to propel the pro-western Yushchenko to the presidency.

Lawmakers also fired the Central Elections Commission and vowed to withhold the money needed for May 27.

NEWS PEACE

CONTINUED FROM P1

hosted two such weeks since it was started two years ago, though others were held in the past. "It is our intention to create a tradition of holding it every first week in April," he said.

Abreu noted that Peace Week was being held during a holy week, including Passover, Easter, the Buddhist new year and the yearly Jehovah's Witness holy dinner.

She introduced the keynote speaker, Dr. Deborah Ragin, an associate professor at Montclair State University and a member of the Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict and Violence, a division of the American Psychological Association.

Ragin kicked off the conference by talking about the historical perspectives on peace. In creating the Nobel Peace Prize, Alfred Nobel defined one of the goals of peace as "the abolition or reduction of standing armies."

But in today's world, Ragin said, "That's a challenge." She said that peace needs to be about more than ending war and that we should seek to equalize society and prevent the inequality that leads to conflict. "Economic inequalities are one of the founding stones to a lack of peace," she said.

"Peace has different faces," she said. The Red Cross, for example, helps the war effort; it is not a "pacifist approach to peace," which Mahatma Gandhi represents.

The most important part of the United Nations' peace goals, Ragin said, was to "cooperate in solving international humanitarian problems and in promoting respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms."

According to Ragin, "It goes beyond the 'let's be nice' ... 'to the 'what are the tenets of peace?'"

Ragin also discussed the apartheid in South Africa. Desmond Tutu started the

Truth and Reconciliation Commission in response as a different model of addressing conflict. Instead of pointing to one side as the oppressor and naming the other the victim, it sought to heal all problems.

The Nguni language has the term *ubuntu*, which means the "essence of being human, generous, compassionate and caring," Ragin said. Tutu adopted this ideal as the driving force behind his commission.

Following Ragin's presentation, there was a series of discussions held by student organizations and other members of the Montclair State community.

From 10-11, the first set of sessions ran. Four discussions were presented in four different rooms in the Student Center. Spectrums held one on ending global homophobia with two of its members discussing laws around the world that represent homophobic ideas and some of the most and least gay-friendly places to live.

According to Natalie Rusciani, Spectrums vice president, it was well-attended. "I think they had about 25 people in their room," said Yankouski.

Immediately following, in the same room, ASSIST, the only other student organization involved, held a presentation on making service fun. They were not so lucky, getting no attendees.

"They got there late," Velasco said of ASSIST. "People thought their room was cancelled." ASSIST member Jimmy Nye, however, said that they were there right on time, but thinks people expected them to be there earlier.

CNVPP advertised to student organizations to get involved through flyers in their mailboxes and sending personal e-mails, but only those two organizations responded. "I

would have liked to have seen more representatives," Yankouski said.

Yankouski said he would like SGA to be one of the cosponsors next year. "They can push and encourage other organizations to get involved." He would also like to see Greek organizations get involved.

At 2:30, the final set of presentations was held, again four in four different rooms. One such presentation, held by MSU student Yvette Ramons, was "Liberada: Empowerment Through Sexuality to Bring About Peace in the Latina Community," with about 30 people in attendance.

To close out the day, Tamra Wroblewski, a freshman at the College of New Jersey, delivered an endnote speech. In 2004, Wroblewski attended the Seeds of Peace camp in Maine. She discussed her experiences there with other young teens, some of whom came from countries in the Middle East.

According to Wroblewski, the camp was started by John Wallach, a journalist with the *New York Times*, in 1993. He invited the governments of Israel, Egypt and Palestine to send 15 young men who represented future leaders from their countries to work with three American teens to "give a face to the enemy."

Since 1993, 3,000 teens have come out of the Seeds of Peace camp, which has expanded to include not only the Middle East but also countries from South Asia: India, Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Though she studied the culture and history of the countries involved, she was not prepared for the cultural gaps she would encounter. One night, a neighboring camp set off fireworks. Thinking back to her own childhood memories, they made her smile.

She heard her bunk mates whimpering in

response to them. She asked them why, and found out that the same sounds scared them. They connected the fireworks to the gunfire and bombings they have to endure at home.

The purpose of the camp was to get these youths talking (no one was eligible to attend the camp if he or she could not speak English) and working together. It worked to tear down the differences between the campers and make them understand that they aren't as different as they thought.

There were weekly religious sessions, and campers were invited to attend any religious session they wanted. Wroblewski, raised Catholic, attended Christian, Jewish and Muslim sessions. "We got together and discussed how similar our religions really are," she said.

There were also discussion groups held every day, addressing all sorts of issues, from suicide bombings and whether the history books were correct. "We would walk by, and I would hear crying, yelling and screaming."

At the end of the camp, the youths would all hold hands and sing together. "It seems so surreal," Wroblewski said. "It seems so unrealistic. But it works."

The hardest part for Wroblewski was to watch her new friends go home. "Watching everyone go back to wars and rooms with no windows ... really was one of the hardest things I've ever had to do in my life."

Velasco ended the program, discussing his goals for the Peace Week and inviting everyone to come back to the next one on the first Monday in April 2008. "We are in an incredible place at this university," he told the crowd. "There are amazing services and resources for all of our communities on this campus. We need to help ourselves so we can help others."

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REC. CENTER

CONTINUED FROM P.1

Senate meeting, Bressler told faculty, administration and professional staff representatives that the Rec. Center project was "at the top of the list of construction projects" at present.

Since the termination of the contract, the university has on its own enclosed the building in an effort to protect the work that was already done from deterioration from weathering, said Bressler. He said subcontractors, like the carpenter and roofer, were contracted again by the university in order to advance the project.

Vice president of Controlled Construction John Polster returned a call from *The Montclarion* after the news story of the contract termination on March 8 went to print.

Controlled and its surety ARCH has been "trying to have MSU come to its senses and rescind this wrongful termination," Polster said.

"This project has been plagued since day one by the poor architectural drawings and by the repeated turnover of MSU supervisory personnel," said Polster.

He was referring to the supervisory roles in the MSU construction and engineering department (the title of which has varied in recent years), with direct involvement with the Rec. Center project. Harry Schuckel, former vice president for budget, planning and information technology, left his post

last spring. Shuckel's signature is found throughout the Controlled-MSU contract. Doug Cooper, former director of architectural and engineering services, and former project manager Bill McCann were considered in the same light. He said that the aforementioned knew the problems and the history surrounding the project, and that the current administration is not informed.

Polster cited extenuating reasons for the project's initial delay.

"Due to the poor design, the project was stopped on four separate occasions by the [state] Department of Community Affairs," he said. "None of the stop work orders issued by the department were passed upon poor workmanship; they were all design problems."

He cited problems with the design of the pool, the fire protection system and the plumbing and mechanical system. He said it was not a matter of poor performance on behalf of Controlled.

"No substandard work has ever been installed," he said.

Polster also attested that Controlled consistently made efforts to compromise with the university. He said once they suggested that the university allow them to work on Saturday, which is considered "premium time," in order to make up some of the behind-schedule work. He said the university did not

entertain this suggestion, which would have added a "minimal cost" to the total cost of the project.

By contrast, the university maintained its position that Controlled was terminated for just cause. President Susan A. Cole gave a state-of-affairs address to the Student Government Association legislature whereby she commented on the status of the Rec. Center.

"We're in the middle of all kinds of legal processes," she said. "Everything is going as well as it could be as far as moving ahead to the next phase."

Bressler indicated last week that the university was planning to move ahead with plans for a takeover under procurement advisory provisions from the attorney general's office, because there has been no clear intention from ARCH on whether they wanted to assume the completion of the project. The university, according to Bressler, had begun preparing to take over. A takeover would require new agreements with subcontractors and a front of the extra monies by MSU.

If such a plot were to pan out, the university would seek reimbursements from the surety, and likely through a legal process. The parties have held out for an attempt for a diplomatic solution, which may be reached in a near-future sit down. Until then, further progress at the Rec. Center cannot happen.



Matt McCullough | The Montclarion

The Rec. Center (in the background) is a \$22 million construction project. The anticipated completion date was delayed several times before the contractor was fired.

POET

CONTINUED FROM P.1

He said the "language of love was love." Another audience member asked about the difference between song writing and poetry, and Strand said, "I have often wished some of my poems became songs."

He also went on to say that the words in songs rely on the instruments, while the words in poems rely on just that: the words.

Strand's presentation was truly inspiring. His words were carefully chosen and well articulated.

Strand was born in Prince Edward Island and grew up in South America. His works are inspired by that of Carlos Drummond de Andrade and Rafael Alberti.

He received his B.A. from Antioch College in Ohio and received his M.A. from the University of Iowa.

He is a Professor of English at Columbia University of New York and was the Poet Laureate of the United States of America.

Strand has received many awards, including the Rockefeller prize, Fellowships from the Academy of Poets and is a former Chancellor of the Academy of American Poets.



Jessica Sproviero | The Montclarion



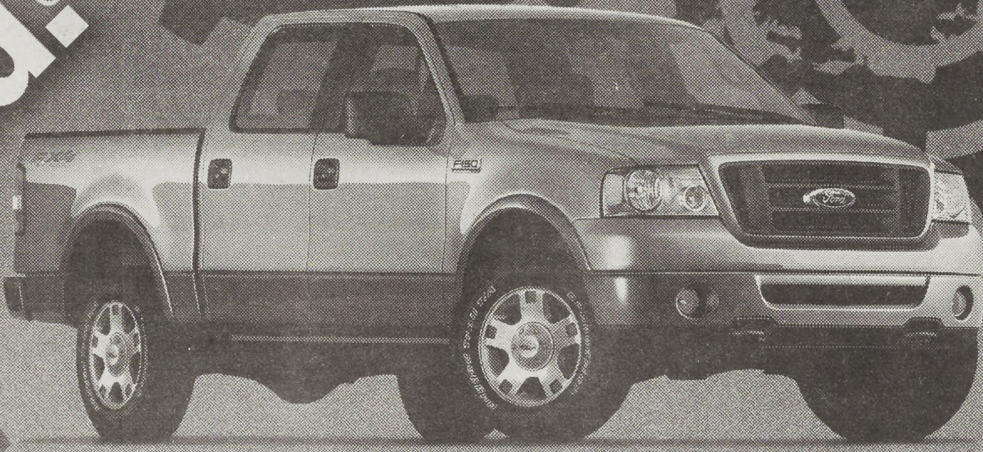
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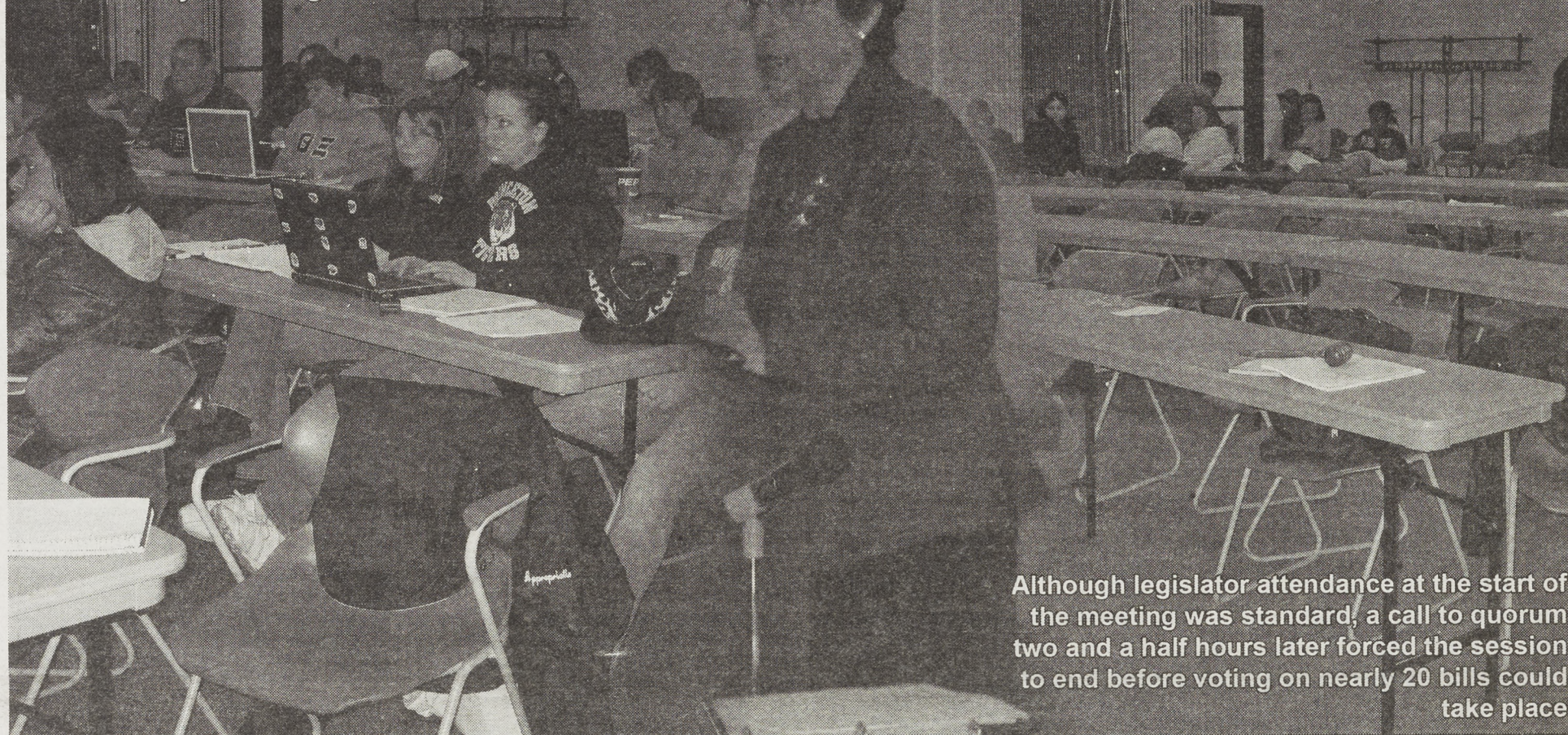
o7

college student
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President Susan A. Cole addressed the representatives of the Student Government Association, Inc. at Wednesday's meeting.



Although legislator attendance at the start of the meeting was standard, a call to quorum two and a half hours later forced the session to end before voting on nearly 20 bills could take place.

CATHOLIC PERSPECTIVES LECTURE SERIES

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Christopher Klofft, S.T.B., S.T.L., S.T.D.
Assistant Professor of Theology
Assumption College

Janet Smith, Ph.D.
Professor of Moral Theology
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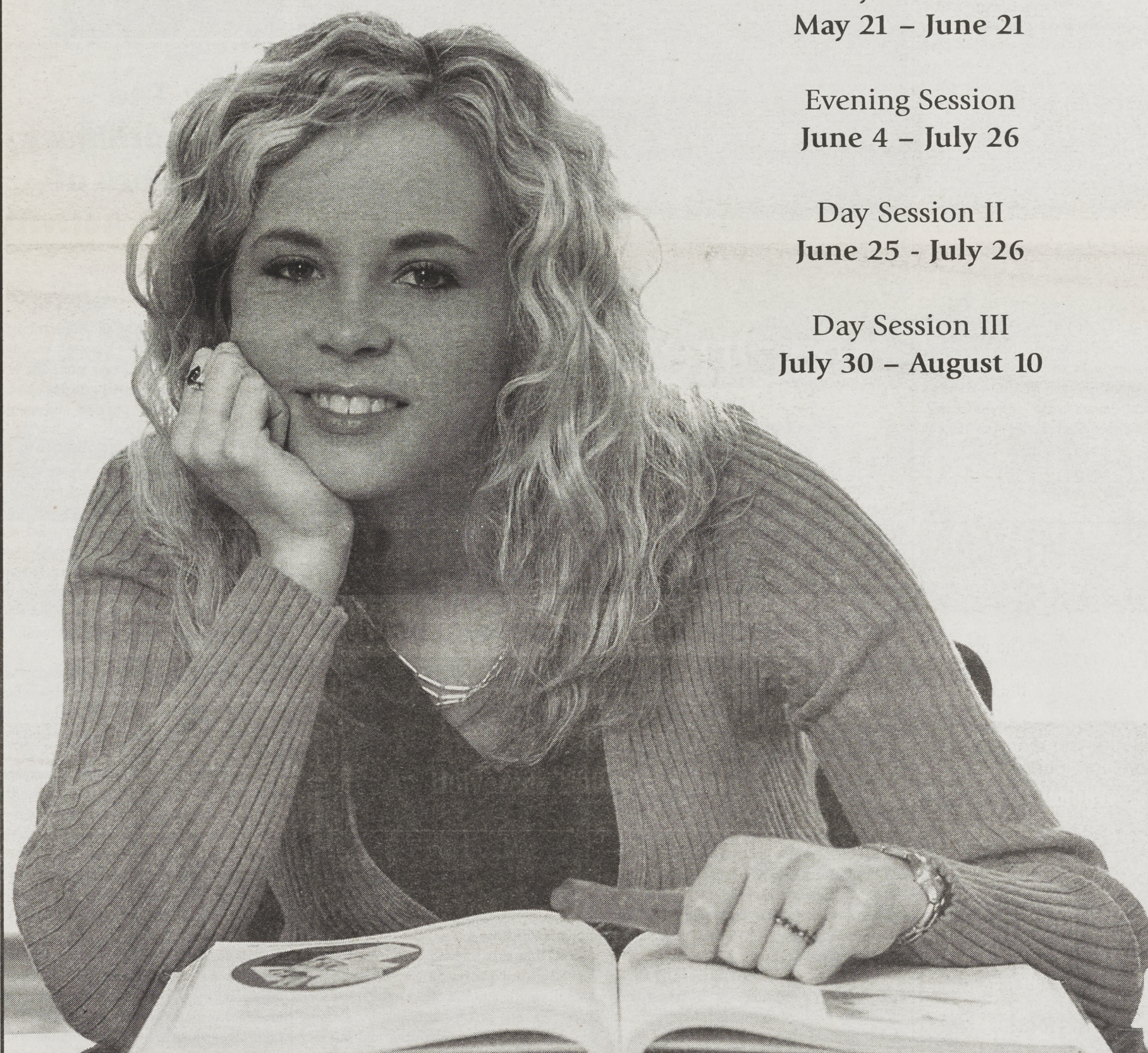
4 sessions

Day Session I
May 21 – June 21

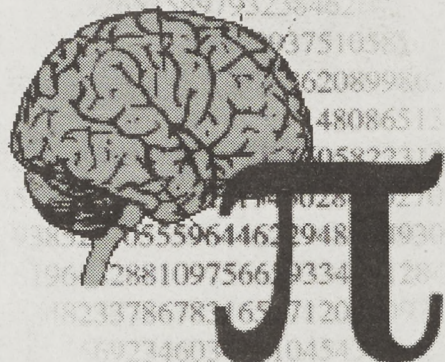
Evening Session
June 4 – July 26

Day Session II
June 25 – July 26

Day Session III
July 30 – August 10



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Jessica Sproviero | The Montclarion

Brain Game = Brain Gain

Rob Gilbert, Ph. D.

Department of Exercise Science and Physical Education

Our average brain capacity is 2.8×10^{20} , or approximately 10 million volumes [books] of 1,000 pages each. This outrageous capacity mandates humility. I've heard people lament that they couldn't learn any more, that their "brain is full." Yeah, right! There is no way that their brain is full. They have simply reached a point of fatigue and need a break for things to settle. Then, just as the body yearns for more once the last meal has been digested, we are always ready to learn more. I've never met a person who has reached the limits of his or her capacity to learn. I have, however, met plenty of folks who have quit learning.

—From *The Owner's Manual for the Brain* by Pierce J. Howard, Ph.D.

This was one of the most memorable moments ever in my 27 years teaching here at Montclair State University. Here's the story:

March 14 is referred to as "Pi Day." March 14 = $3/14 = 3.14$. Get it?

That night, ABC News ran a short segment on individuals who have memorized pi to incredible lengths. 60-year-old Akira Haraguchi of Japan is the current champ. He has memorized the value of pi to 100,000 places.

SEE 'BRAIN' ON P. 10

OVERHEARD AT MSU

E-MAIL SUBMISSIONS TO
MSUFEATURE@GMAIL.COM

Guy #1:

Well, he doesn't wear deodorant ever since he found out he likes getting his armpits eaten out. Apparently it tastes bad.

Guy #2:

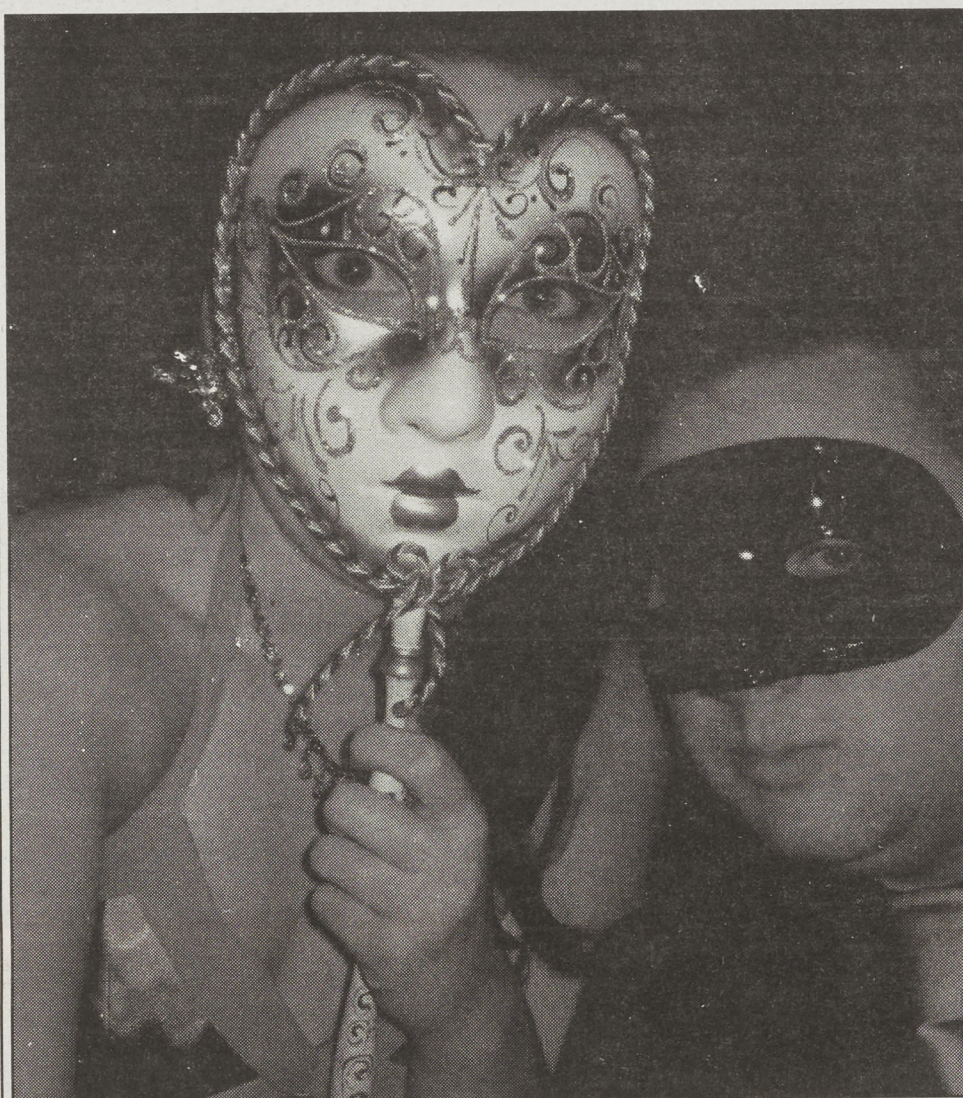
And B.O. doesn't?

I CAN CRACK A WALNUT
BETWEEN MY KNEES.

It's official.
After 11 years I
finally like
Gwen Stefani.

My fetus is bleeding!

Charity Ball Fires Up



Courtesy of Allyssa Hynes

Two MSU students, Allyssa Hynes and Scott Stewart, participated in the Masquerade-themed ASSIST Charity Ball last Thursday.

Douglas McIntyre
Chief Copy Editor

A fire swallower, a girl dressed as Tuxedo Mask, black roses and a couple death-defying stunts are just some of the things that made up Thursday night's Charity Ball.

On March 29, ASSIST held its fourth annual Charity Ball. This year, all proceeds went to the New Jersey Battered Women's Shelter.

Montclair State University students had to pay \$5, and anyone not from MSU had to pay \$7 to attend. ASSIST raised over \$400 for the charity, according to ASSIST Treasurer Valerie Kerr.

"I was very happy with the amount raised," Kerr said about the event. "We lowered the price from last year. We [ASSIST] felt that it helped the attendance this year, and I hope we raise more next year."

The theme of the ball was a masquerade, but that stretched into a more classic castle theme. A dragon graced the wall behind the ticket-takers, and dance-goers had to cross an alligator-filled moat on a drawbridge to get into the ballroom.

On each table, covered in crossing silver and purple tablecloths, sat a centerpiece created by ASSIST members. Secretary Jen Frank painted clear vases silver and filled them with black roses. On the night of the dance, ASSIST members filled each vase with water and placed dry ice in the bottom, allowing light smoke to drift out of each vase.

"It was excellent," Frank said. "There were twice as many people as last year."

Between 8 and 10 p.m., dance-goers drifted slowly into the room, eating some of the

Sodexo-provided food (eggplant parmesan and herb-roasted chicken).

The desserts were a big hit. ASSIST members provided brownies, cupcakes and cookies. Frank's cookies especially went over well, as they often seem to at ASSIST events. They were gone before 9:00.

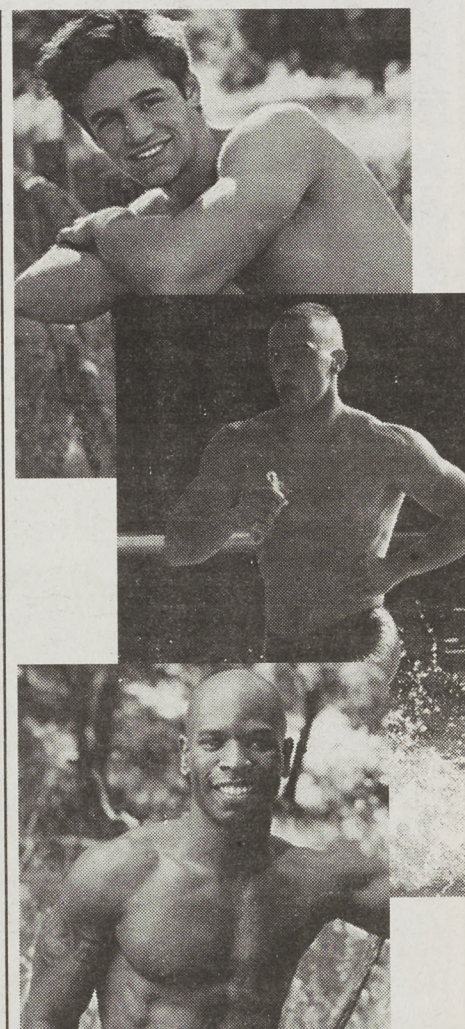
Just after 9:30, ASSIST President Kris Brandi and Vice President Scott Stewart announced to the crowd a new aspect of Charity Ball: a magic show.

Club Magic, a new Class III organization, presented some of its members performing tricks and stunts. Freshman Sam Gherman performed a series of sleight-of-hand card manipulations to music, making them appear and disappear seemingly out of thin air.

The magicians finished with two large stunts, one in which Gherman placed ASSIST member Jimmy Nye's head into a stockade and took a power saw to his neck, leaving it entirely intact, and the last one in which four "strong men" in attendance tied Nye up and challenged him to escape faster than it took them to tie him up. He succeeded with two minutes to spare.

The dramatic ending of the magic show came from a short woman. She sat down with a small candle and two sticks, which she then lit on fire. She proceeded to put the flaming end into her mouth, relighting and starting again in choreographed movements.

Though the dancing of the ball only happened in the last hour, ASSIST members agreed they'd like to have the magicians perform again. An event that raises over \$400 for charity and leaves almost all participants feeling they have had a good time is hard to come by, but ASSIST succeeded.



Courtesy of sciencedaily.com and magazines. ivillage.com

The Extraordinary Powers of Physical Activity

James Carpentier
Staff Writer

If there were one way to make dramatic changes in your body — the way you look and the way you feel — starting now, this spring, it is *physical activity*. And to emphasize the extraordinary physical and mental benefits of physical activity — be it walking more frequently, bicycling, hiking, taking an exercise class, playing sports, lifting weights, jogging, gardening, dancing, cleaning a room or stretching your upper and lower body — this article will present eight good reasons to spend less time sitting and more time moving. The recent March 26 issue of *Newsweek* devoted several pages on the numerous health benefits associated with exercise and physical activity in general:

- 1. Physical Activity Prevents Osteoporosis and Bone Loss.** Physical activity, which increases bone size and density, helps to prevent bone loss and osteoporosis associated with aging.
- 2. Good Type of Cholesterol (HDL) Increases With Exercise.** HDL cholesterol, the healthy kind, reduces heart disease risk and is enhanced with exercise by nearly 5 percent.
- 3. Working Out Increases the Heart's Endurance.** Exercise increases the heart's endurance and the volume of blood being pumped, which greatly improves overall heart function.
- 4. Balance and Stability are Improved With Exercise.** Exercise can minimize falls resulting in injury by 30 percent by improving muscle coordination, strength and reaction time, all of which are needed for balance and stability.
- 5. Exercise and Physical Activity Boost Brainpower.** *Newsweek* mentioned how exercise does more than build muscles and decrease heart disease risk, it also enhances brainpower and may also reduce the risk of

SEE 'ACTIVITY' ON P. 10

THROWING YOUR VOTE AWAY...

Highlights From This Year's SGA Election Write-in Votes

Thank God Angelo is gone, just hope Ron won't be a political puppet like Amy

Why vote? You're running unopposed.

Homestar Runner

Get rid of Dean Howell's dumb behind

Amy Chicken please don't go!

Absolutely no confidence

Andrew Gibson

The Other Candidate

Get real – stop taking this as a joke!!! I pray for this school I really really do

Ujh

57yedrtu

Sororities and fashion shows in your platform statements? Lame.

I voted and I'm not even an undergrad anymore!

I rather an ape then this person. Maria finally met her match in the dumb ass competition. I would write someone in but apparently everyone was too damn lazy to get 300 signatures, yet they feel they can be in such a great position

Chester Snapdragonmcfisticuff

Jesus

Borat Sagdiev

Homer Simpson

Mickey Mouse

20,000 undergrads and no candidates, and no competition for the above. Tsktsk.

Stop messing up.

JJ Spechio should wear a powdered wig

You can't write in justices. I should have told them not to put this in here. My bad.

Jack Samuels



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ACTIVITY

CONTINUED FROM P. 8

Alzheimer's. A University of Illinois study showed better statewide standardized math and reading test scores for groups of students who had just participated in physical education class activities, such as timed pushups, a brisk run and sit-ups.

6. Exercise And Daily Physical Activities Help Beat the Blues. Exciting research shows that regular physical activity and exercise may be natural "antidepressants." While exercise produces those short-term natural chemicals called endorphins that make us feel good during and just after a workout, *Newsweek* indicates how scientists have recently discovered some longer-lasting effects of exercise on the brain including decreased anxiety, reduced stress, better sleep quality and improved mood.

7. Lack of Physical Activity is Linked to

Several Diseases. *Newsweek* provided the percentage of diseases associated with a lack of physical activity:

Hypertension: 14 percent, colon cancer: 18 percent, breast cancer: 14 percent, heart disease: 19 percent, Type 2 Diabetes: 21 percent, strokes: 24 percent and osteoporosis: 24 percent.

8. Sleep Better With Regular Exercise. According to MayoClinic.com (July 11, 2005), "A program of regular physical activity enhances the quality of nocturnal sleep."

Make Physical Activity A Lifetime Habit

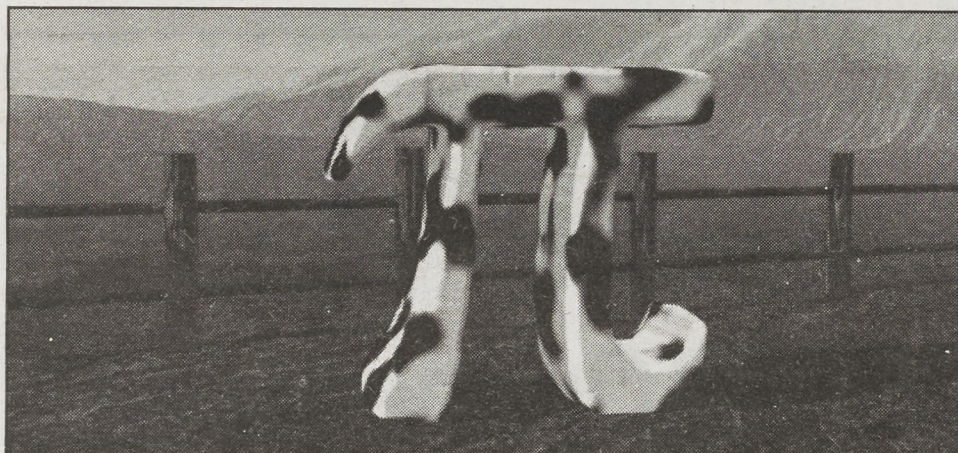
With the warmer weather coming and more hours of daylight this spring and summer, now is the optimal time to get outdoors and get moving to improve both body and mind. If you have been sedentary and want to begin a regular program of physical activ-



Justina Villanueva | The Montclarion

BRAIN

CONTINUED FROM P. 8



Courtesy of thesunfinancialdiary.com

Learning the numbers of pi is difficult if you believe that you do not have the brain power.

I showed the ABC News clip to my students and came up with what I thought was a great idea. What if we had our own "pi competition"? As soon as I enthusiastically suggested it, I felt all the energy leave the classroom. In an attempt to re-engage my students, I offered a prize — I'd pay \$1 for every digit the winner memorized. I expected this reward would elicit a thunderous standing ovation. Instead, it received a lukewarm response — only a few faces lit up.

Though I was disappointed with the number of students who actually participated, I'm pleased to report that the newly crowned pi champion in my classes is Rob Scherr. Scherr is a senior biology major with a 3.9 GPA who will be attending medical school next year. He aspires to become either a neurosurgeon or an emergency room physician.

So let's get to the bottom line. How many digits did Scherr actually remember? Fifty, 100 or 150? No, not even close. Scherr memorized 260 digits!

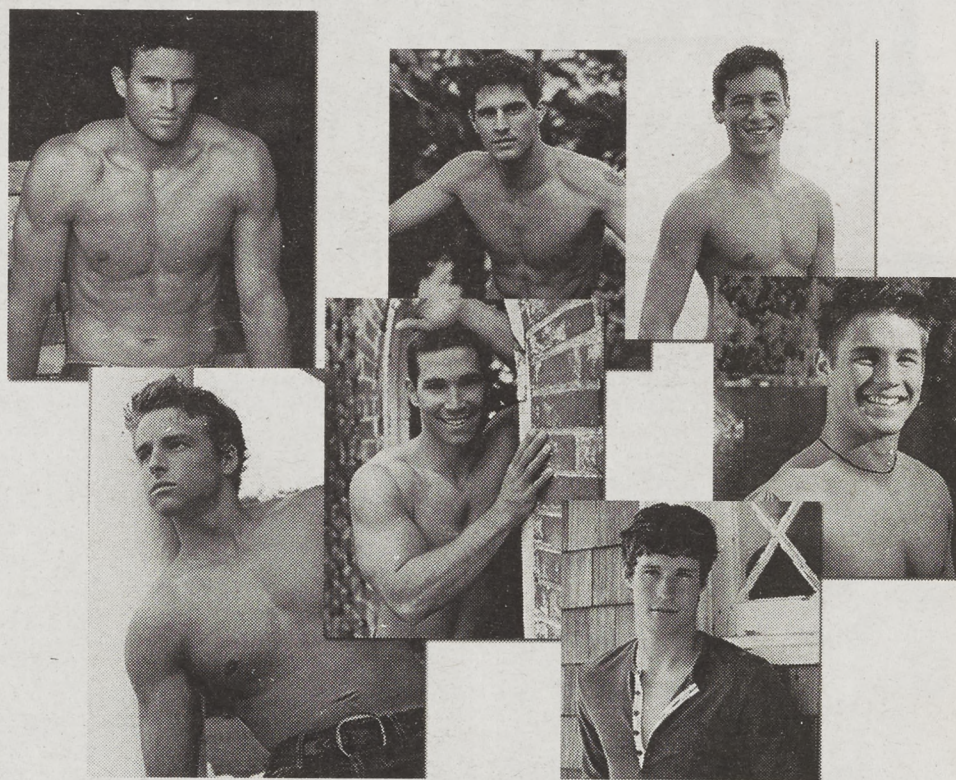
When I asked Scherr about his ability to memorize things, he replied that he doesn't think he has a particularly good memory and that he could probably utilize his memory better. In fact, he admitted that he considers himself absent-minded and his hands are often proof. He said that he's always writing notes on his hands as very visible reminders of things he has to do.

Two hundred and sixty digits of pi were memorized by a person who doesn't think he has a particularly good memory!

When asked what memorization strategy he used, Scherr said he started by grouping the numbers by twos and then in groups of tens. He spent about 75 minutes total memorizing the digits. (Not bad "investing": 75 minutes for a \$260 reward!) Interestingly, each of his "study sessions" was only between five and 15 minutes. Remember the quote, "It's better to do a little a lot than to do a lot a little."

There is a lesson here. Please don't think that I value memorization just for the sake of memorization. I used memorizing pi as a boundary-stretching experience. Once you do something that you think might be impossible — like memorizing pi to 260 places — you have redefined and re-set the bar on what is actually mentally possible to accomplish. You might want to try it. After all, you have "10 million volumes [books] of 1,000 pages each in your brain." I'm sure you can find the space to put a few hundred more digits! Let me help you get started: 3.1415962 ...

Need the motivation to do something "impossible"? Call Dr. Gilbert's Success Hotline at (973)743-4690. Three-minute inspirational messages are available 24/7/365. There's a new messages every morning at 7:30.



Courtesy of magazines.ivillage.com

Physical activity can help any man achieve the body of an Abercrombie & Fitch model with proper motivation.

ity, get your physician's clearance.

Then begin with the easiest way to fit in daily physical activity by walking more. *Newsweek* states that walking is "often underrated as a form of exercise, but it is something nearly everyone can do," and requires no special workout gear, but be sure to have comfortable footwear (walking shoes or sneakers). You can make walking as intense or moderate as you want (going up a staircase or hill for more intensity, or staying on flat terrain for lower intensity). "Walking

slowly burns about five calories per minute, walking briskly burns seven calories per minute and jogging burns roughly nine calories per minute," according to *Newsweek*.

If it gets too warm or cold outside or there is inclement weather, move your walking program inside (climb stairs, go to a mall or walk down the hallway a few times or around a building). Most importantly, once you begin, make walking and other types of physical activities mentioned earlier in this article a year-round and lifetime habit.

The Limecat is NOT Pleased...

...That You're NOT writing for The Montclarion

We're currently seeking
writers, photographers,
graphic designers, copy editors
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Interested cats should contact
Managing Editor Peter Schaus at
MSUManaging@gmail.com

Top Signs That Say it's Spring in Montclair

David Clarke
Assistant Arts & Entertainment Editor



1. The skirts are getting shorter and the days are getting longer. Girls, longer days and even longer baseball games ... I love spring.

2. It's so hot in the Student Center annex, I'm shvitzing like Liberace in a bathhouse in the middle of July. We may not have an air conditioner here in *The Montclarion* office, but it's O.K., cause we can cool down by getting some hot coffee at Café Diem.

3. Orange skin galore! Who needs sun block? Just butter up your back and let it sizzle like bacon on a George Forman Grill

4. My pasty, pale skin burns when I step outside. I feel like a vampire in this weather.

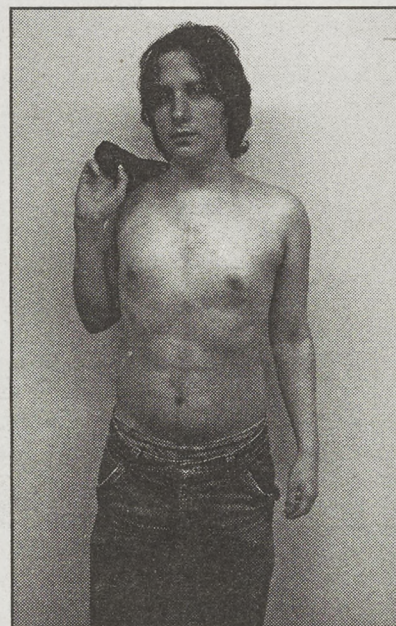
5. Those greenhouse gases are really stinking up the place. Open up the windows, cause there ain't nothing like the smell of sweaty skunks.

6. The Nasonex bee's warning has come to pass! So how do you get rid of that allergenic cold? Why, pump your body full of prescription drugs, of course! It's the American way!

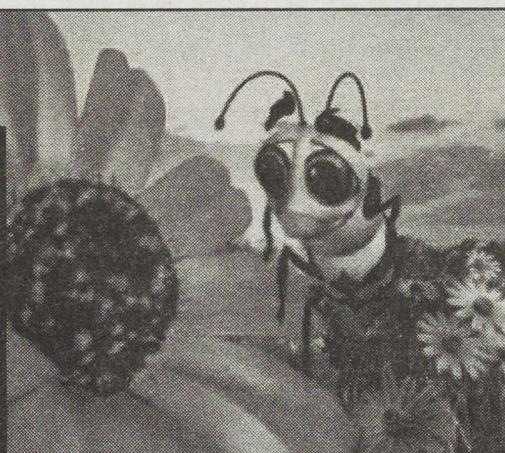
7. Mmm ... smells like global warming. I'm super serial, you guys! Global warming stinks in April.

8. I finally have the chance to show off my sexy body. Seriously, you could grate cheese on these abs. Ladies, ladies, ladies. Calm down please. There's plenty of me to go around.

9. Protests! Protests! Protests! It's protest season! All those wacky college kids who still believe in something (all three of them) are hitting the streets, whether it's protesting Darfur on the streets of New York or on the streets of Bloomfield Ave, social optimism is in the air for the first time since '99.



Matthew McCullough | *The Montclarion*



Courtesy of galleries.modifiedstreetcars.com, sillysoft.net, feed.stashmedia.tv environmentdebate.wordpress.com.



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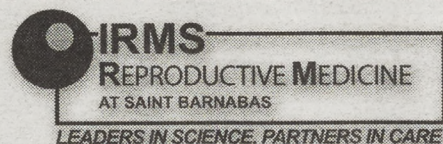


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at kasser theater: *Twelfth Night ... Or What You Will*

Shayna Jacobs
News Editor

Twelfth Night

Dir. Christian Ely
Starring: Tim Hackney,
Victoria M. Gutierrez,
Laurn Fay Sullivan

★★★★



Who to woo and who not to woo is a dilemma that was never smoothly resolved by Shakespeare. This is especially true of *Twelfth Night*, where genders and identities are ironically askew.

Keeping in sync with the risqué spring theater lineup that commenced with *Cabaret*, the Department of Theatre and Dance's production of *Twelfth Night* (March 29 to April 1) at the L. Howard Fox Studio Theater was likewise a tale of sexual ambiguity that dazzled audiences through its racy costuming and the occasional hyper-suggestive fornication sequence.

Twelfth flirts with thematic homosexuality, but not advertently so, because, of course, no one but the audience was quite sure who was who or who was what.

In ancient Illyria, Orsino (Tim Hackney), the duke, professes that he is love-struck by the countess Olivia (Victoria M. Gutierrez). The complex romantic plot spawns from Orsino's preliminary declaration of his quest to win the beautiful Olivia. Through a jumbled sequence of events, the protagonist Viola (Laurn Fay Sullivan) poses as her pre-

sumed-to-be-deceased brother, Cesario, and is initiated as part of Orsino's posse. Viola's scheme is an attempt to win the heart of Orsino before it is consumed fully by Olivia.

The roles of Orsino, Olivia and Viola were appropriately cast. Gutierrez's performance was notably dynamic. Her character demanded a fundamental personality shift when she fell head-over-heels for Viola as Cesario, under the impression that Viola is Cesario. Prior to the shift, Olivia is a poised stateswoman with a sexuality distinguished from all other characters. Her attire — a bustier, girdle and laced black stocking-boots — portrayed her as a vixen, and her womanly vocal presence commanded all listeners.

Orsino, a character of a passionate but benign disposition, is not a frequent stage presence, as prescribed by the role. His intermittent appearances could be categorized soapbox-like outcries of his deep love and admiration for you guessed who.

As the role was written, he sought to exaggerate and play out his lustful yearning for Olivia's heart. Viola similarly is on a crusade to win the love of Orsino. As Cesario, Viola manages to elicit some questionably homosexual tendencies out of Orsino. In the end, genders and organs were properly identified.

The role of the jester, or Feste (Maggie Griffin-Smith), is muse-like clownish figure that assists characters from each party for just compensation. The play begins and ends with a soliloquy by the jester.

The jester snoops deviously around the

SEE 'TWELFTH' ON P. 17

at the bookstore:

The Secret Is Out

Alicia Fegghi
Staff Writer

Forever in Blue

Author: Rhonda Byrne
Publisher: Atria Books

★



Visualize what it would look, feel and be like to have the best parking spot every day on campus. Believe this and it will come true. Is it that easy?

According to the self-help gurus of *The Secret*, by Rhonda Byrne, it is. But not to me.

Our culture has created another high-priced scheme to achieve happiness: ask, believe and you will receive. *The Secret* is nothing but a crafty marketing scheme and repackaging of ancient positive thinking based on the law of attraction. Even though

the law of attraction is nothing new, it has regained popularity because many people remain unhappy and unfulfilled. The self-help gurus are making a lot of money off of desperate, depressed, deprived and stressed-out people. Perhaps poverty would be nonexistent if all poor people bought *The Secret* book, DVD, CD or audio book.

By applying the knowledge from *The Secret's* persuasive and motivational stories, people can eliminate diseases, become rich, overcome obstacles and achieve what many would consider impossible. In summary, "believe and act as if you already have [insert spouse, dream, house, job or amount of money]" and eventually that "wish" will come true.

Like a magnet, you get whatever you are thinking about. Every person, every disease, every relationship, every situation, just about everything — is the result of the law of attraction. The quality of your life is based on your thoughts, which determine what is attracted

SEE 'SECRET' ON P. 15

at the record shop:

Rocco DeLuca and the Burden Shines Colorful Light for New Music

Christina Marie Reynier
Staff Writer

I Trust You To Kill Me

Label: Ironworks
Released: March 2006

★★★★★



"The blues died when they took the 'f**k' out of it," says Rocco DeLuca, the front man for the band Rocco DeLuca and the Burden, whose innovative music is undoubtedly about to effect a life or two, if not the world.

DeLuca stays true to his words and brings the "f**k" back to blues in his debut album. The album is a melting pot of sounds including hints of bluegrass, punk, rock and blues — something rarely created or experienced until now.

Rocco DeLuca and the Burden hails from

California and was, until 2005, a one-man gig for DeLuca. DeLuca is far from new to the scene, opening for such acts as John Mayall and Johnny Cash and coming from a musical family where his father was backup guitarist for musical legend Bo Diddley.

DeLuca believes this is where his unusual choice of sound comes from. "Most of my friends were into punk, and my family's roots were in blues, so the two extremes were really all I listened to," he explains.

Leave Ares and other "free" music downloading sites behind — DeLuca's first album, *I Trust You to Kill Me*, is undeniably a record worthy of ownership status. Tracks like "Dope" and "Swing Low" show off the band's country bluegrass sound with guitars twanging and drums booming, evened out with tracks like "How Fast" and "Gravitate," which show off the band's rock side with showy guitar solos.

Despite the constant changing of the music, one thing stays constant — DeLuca's

SEE 'ROCCO' ON P. 17

Justina Villanueva | The Montclarion

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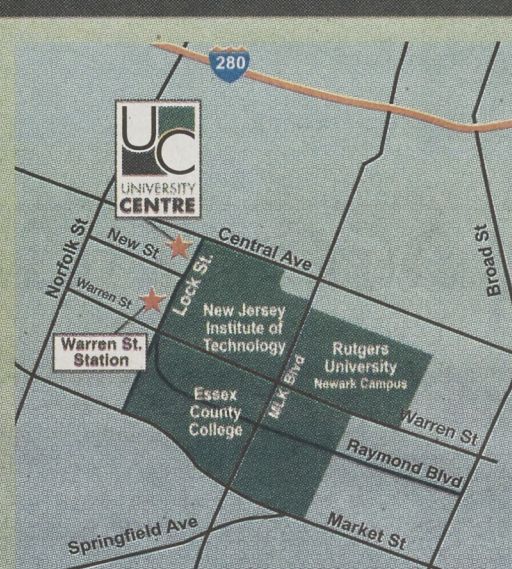
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6 april

Grindhouse

Movie geeks across the country are pulling out their collective hair waiting for this Robert Rodriguez/Quentin Tarantino double feature, complete with fake movie trailers and scratched up screens. An homage to the grindhouse cinema of the '70s, the film is split up into two separate segments: Rodriguez's zombie film *Planet Terror* (the chick with the leg gun) and Tarantino's slasher film *Death Proof* (Kurt ... freaking ... Russell). Just go see it.



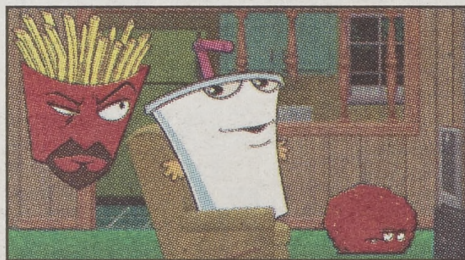
Black Book

It's too bad *Black Book* comes out on the same day as *Grindhouse*, because this Paul Verhoven film (director of misunderstood classics like *Starship Troopers*, *Showgirls*, *Robocop* and *Total Recall*), about a Jewish woman posing as a Nazi during the Holocaust, looks to be one of the most exciting critical comebacks of a director all year.

Are We Done Yet

I ask myself that question every day. This is the film for people who thought that the loose ends in *Are We There Yet* were too much to bear. The big progression between the two films? Ice Cube gets hurt by horrifying animals instead of monstrous children this time around.

13 april



Aqua Teen Hunger Force Colon Movie Film For Theatres

Meatwad, Master Shake and Frylock (who all reside in my native South Jersey) make it to the big screen. The plot ... does it really matter? It's *Aqua Teen's* movie. Expect explosions, references to '80s geek culture and more Carl than anyone would ever want.

Disturbia

The unfortunately named Shia LaBeouf stars in a film about a teenager under house arrest who, out of sheer boredom, becomes a voyeur. While spying on his neighbors, he begins to believe that one of his neighbors may be a murderer. The title, *Disturbia*, was changed from the original title, *Rear Window 2: The Next Generation*.



Hot Fuzz

The makers of *Shawn of the Dead* and the under-seen British show *Spaced* turn to deconstructing the action film. If it's as good as the loving Romero homage that *Shawn* was, then audiences are in for a real treat.

In the Land of Women

Adam Brody takes Zach Braff's place as leading man in the "rich white guy with the emotional intelligence of a child comes back home to ponder his future while playing folk/rock music" subgenre. And Meg Ryan co-stars, so this ought to be the cutest film since *Joe Versus the Volcano*.



Kickin' It Old Skool

As if the title weren't repugnant enough, this "film" stars Jamie Kennedy (reprising his white rapper character; not exactly getting him any closer to that NAACP image award) as a preteen who goes into a coma while break dancing in the mid-1980s, and wakes up 20 years later. I can imagine the pitch of this film. "It's *Austin Powers* meets *Malibu's Most Wanted* with a dash of *The Wedding Singer*, but with a heart."



20 april

27 april



courtesy of Fox

Let the Phony-Hawk Reign

David Clarke
Assistant Arts & Entertainment Editor

With *American Idol* on its sixth season, the country seems to be losing interest in the show, and it makes sense. Every season is exactly the same. You get the diva who should win but won't, the generic rocker chick, wacky obese guy and, of course, the guy who sucks enough that the producers let him through strictly for the laughs.

Well, what if that guy who sucks actually made it to the Top 10? What if they made it even further? That's exactly what's happening with Sanjaya Malakar. For some strange reason, he got high praise from the judges in the first round of *American Idol*, and since then, he's proven the most entertaining train wreck since Star Jones-Reynolds.

Malakar was pretty bad from the beginning, but he kicked up the crazy when he displayed his "special" ability to hula dance. The hula prince, after making it to the final 12, gave week after week of bad performance, singing boring songs off-pitch and consistently forgetting the words, until it reached a fever pitch and he entered his own universe.

During last week's episodes, Malakar butchered No Doubt's "Bathwater" (in front of lead singer Gwen Stefani). That was no big deal. What was a big deal was Malakar's faux hawk, which took his long hair and formed a mohawk with seven mini-ponytails, causing fans to create the phrase "Phony-hawk."

Since then, Sanjaya-mania has taken the country by storm. Howard Stern is prompting his viewers to vote for Malakar, making him the number one contestant on his "Vote for the Worst" campaign.

Stern's plan has been working, much to the chagrin of village idiot "J," an oddly overweight girl who stupidly decided to hunger strike until Malakar gets voted off. She claimed on her YouTube video blog that it wasn't fair to the contestants who might have had a chance to win. Of course, we all know *American Idol* isn't a singing competition but a reality show, and we just want the most entertaining show possible.

Either way, it doesn't matter, since the ass quit the strike on day 16, on the order of her doctor. Hey doc, you should have let her continue. It's called natural selection.

Sanjaya fever has even been turned into a viral web video, consisting of a guy with a Sanjaya hairdo hula-dancing and singing over and over "Sanjaya. Sanjaya. We'll set this place on fire." The video, like Malakar, is simultaneously funny and annoying.

Malakar is one of the worst contestants on *American Idol*, as if Janet Jackson had an illegitimate love child with William Hung.

One could make the argument that this is a perfect example of corporate America co-opting the salt-of-the-earth people like William Hung and Sanjaya Malakar as losers, as laughing stocks, to get some cheap laughs. One could say that, but writing snarky articles like this is way more fun.

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at the bookstore (cont'd):

SECRET

CONTINUED FROM P. 12

to you. Think negatively ("I never do well on tests") and anticipate bad things will happen ("I will fail"), and they will happen (Grade: F). Thinking negative thoughts about test-taking will only ensure more F's and a plummeting GPA. On the other hand, approach that incidence with positive thoughts ("I will do well on the test") and anticipate good things ("I will pass"), and they will happen (A passing grade). Watch your GPA magically rise.

Magical thinking is all *The Secret* is. I do believe that positive people attract more positive people into their lives, which can help people have a better life. I also believe that being thankful for what you have makes for a happier and better life. However, I don't agree that I can "manifest" things, such as a parking spot at MSU, simply by "manifesting" it. If I don't get the parking spot, then it's my fault for not "believing" well enough (when it's actually my fault for not leaving earlier to get a parking spot).

The Secret claims that those who experience widespread tragedies, such as tsunamis, hurricanes and diseases like AIDS, experience it because they are "vibrating" in an exact placement with these calamities. Whatever we have now in life — even the bad stuff — we are manifesting, whether we know it or not. I'd like to see the authors walk amidst the AIDS sufferers in Africa or those in Louisiana who survived Hurricane Katrina and preach that to them. Oh, wait! We shouldn't think such negative thoughts, or else it'll happen to us. Too bad the authors don't know that people can vibrate at a high

level with compassion and not be "negative" — while offering comfort and aide.

The following people have to "manifest" their way out of their situations since they manifested their way into it: those dying of AIDS, cancer, starvation and addiction; abused children; the troops in Iraq; the poor; those with a lottery ticket seeking to win; and students who want a decent parking spot.

These people have no one to blame but themselves. They've got what they've focused on. This means women who got raped were focusing on being raped. This is dangerous thinking. *The Secret* can cause stress and depression in people because they will constantly worry if they're causing cancer by having the wrong thoughts and emotions.

It's ridiculous to assume that you get what you focus on, or that what you're getting is the result of what you focus on. If an airplane passenger is afraid the plane will crash, and that person focuses on that, how come the plane doesn't crash? The gurus of self-improvement claim it's because "there were more people on the plane visualizing the plane arriving safely than there were visualizing it crashing."

A group has magical powers to make something happen just because it focuses on some outcome. If all little girls got what they've focused on, they would have gotten a pony under their Christmas tree. Either Santa thought I was naughty all these years, or it was just my fault for not focusing enough on getting a white pony or manifesting it the right way.

The Secret resembles the campaigns for magic diet pills that require no exercise. Diet and exercise is the key to weight loss. People have to act on it. It's not just enough to think or visualize desires. People who want to win the lottery are supposed to visualize winning, how they'll feel and what they'll do with the cash.

To their dismay, they don't win, even though they know *The Secret*. Why isn't the law of attraction giving them what they're visualizing? They've bought *The Secret* — but they didn't buy the winning ticket. It argues that they're not visualizing it clearly or often.

Perhaps they're visualizing incorrectly or they have some external obstacles or inner conflicts, such as unresolved emotions or conflicts that are stopping them from getting what they want. They need to fix their visualizing because they're doing it wrong. However, visualizing something doesn't make it come true.

The Secret makes people afraid to show their true emotions, such as depression and anger, making it seem like these are unacceptable (but it's acceptable to be constantly happy). There are many benefits of expressing negative emotions. It's not healthy to eliminate the negative because people learn from defeat and hardships. Faking being happy is acting in a world where it is a stage. However, this is reality, and we are people. People have emotions.

I'm sure many people would want a blissful life. They'd get anything they'd want on

demand and would always be happy and never shed a tear. Sure, it may seem like paradise, but things would be so boring and repetitive. We all can't live like clones living the same robotic life.

If you want to be happy, write down what makes you happy. Then work to make those things part of your reality. Keeping positive is a great thing, but you'll never get your dream job by chanting or manifesting "Hollywood star." Only in your dreams.

There is nothing wrong with having a goal and focusing on it. There is also nothing wrong with eliminating inner and external obstacles to accomplish goals. Setting goals, visualizing them clearly and eradicating obstacles to obtain them is all great advice. The problem is in *The Secret's* magical thinking: when people believe their goals will come true by visualizing their desires or by reciting their pronouncements every day.

I don't buy *The Secret*. Neither should you.



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**MONTCLAIR
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at the bookstore and theater (cont'd):

ROCCO

CONTINUED FROM P. 12

distinctive and resonant voice. Tracks like "Bus Ride" and "Mystified" give you chills with the way his vocals climb into your body without warning. His voice is reminiscent of a wise old man recalling remarkable stories of his younger years — good and bad. DeLuca's lived a life full of emotions and wants to share it through his music with anyone willing to give him just a minute.

The band has been gaining recognition in the past few months. The video for their first single, "Colorful," is currently in the Top 20 on VH1. Their first single is also on rotation on local radio stations and has recently entered the AAA Top 30 chart.

The band started gaining fame when their "rock doc" aired last year on VH1, titled *I Trust You to Kill Me*, same as their debut album.

The rockumentary followed the guys on their first international tour with their less-than-qualified tour manager and famous actor, Kiefer Sutherland, who also owns the record label they are signed to, Ironworks.

Kiefer Sutherland has been showing the band, especially DeLuca, serious love since they signed to Ironworks in 2004. "He moved me like that, not only musically, but just as a person, as a person with an idea — an ideology," says Sutherland, "It wasn't about going platinum, it wasn't about even going gold — it was about being able to sustain a living and playing music."

Sutherland and his business partner at Ironworks, Jude Cole, has fully supported the band since the beginning. "We thought of him [DeLuca] as a real diamond in the rough,"



California-based band Rocco DeLuca and The Burden released their first album *I Trust You To Kill Me* in March 2006. The songs range from bluegrass to astonishing guitar solos which makes this album unique and fresh.

says Cole, "and that's exactly what we were looking for."

Rocco DeLuca and the Burden are currently on the VH1 "You Oughta Know" tour

with musical artists The Feeling and Mat Kearney, who has previously opened for John Mayer. This tour is making its way across the country hitting all major cities.

TWELFTH

CONTINUED FROM P. 12

set and is regarded mostly by the troop that accompanies Olivia — categorical outcasts, but essential contributors to the plot. Maria (Desiree Rodriguez), Sir Toby Belch (Doug West) and Sir Andrew Aguecheek (Jon Barker) were in cahoots in a subplot to sabotage the prissy Malvolio (Ariel Frenkel), Olivia's steward.

The jester is treated like an oracle by all characters seeking his intuition. His thoughts tend to cost a penny, or a few, as Orsino and others pitch jewelry and coinage at the gypsy-esque figure. Griffin-Smith slightly exaggerated the role and was not so believable as the jester.

The strange euphoria that domineered her performance was disingenuous, although there was a clear attempt on her part to embody the mysticism and intrigue of the oddest character in the play. Granted, Feste is one of the most, if not the most, challenging roles in *Twelfth Night*.

The cast generally seemed to have mastered the Shakespearean parlance that perpetually frustrates students and theatergoers, and it was an impressive rendition overall.

Understanding that theater majors study, perform and produce all types of theater, as a student and spectator, I'm more inclined to attend a modern drama or musical production.

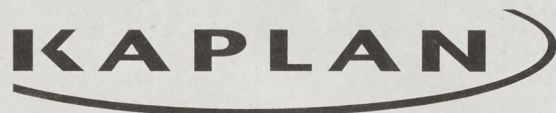
Last spring's production of *Cider House Rules*, also at Fox, came to mind this weekend. I'd prefer an O'Neil or Williams over such a medieval soap opera as an MSU theater ticket-holder any given season.

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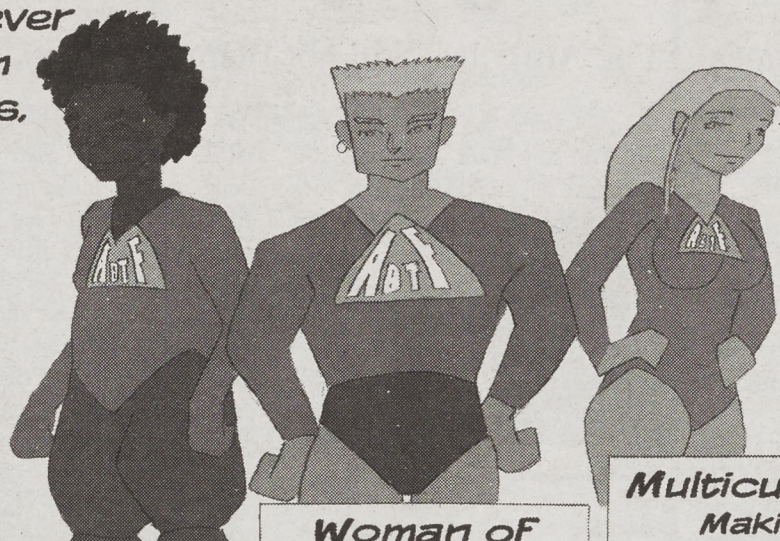
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western cultures.

Igor Vaksman | The Montclarion

"Racism isn't born, folks; it's taught. I have a two-year-old son. You know what he hates? Naps. End of list." Denis Leary said this a decade ago, and you don't have to be Margaret Meade or Emmanuelle Kant to get this basic concept. If you teach your kids to hate, they in turn will do the same. It's a vicious and repugnant cycle. With that said, it came as no surprise last month when the word "nigger" was scrawled on the door of four African-American women's Village Apartment. Appalling, yes, but the four women did not feel threatened or alarmed as stated in Ptl. Richard Williams's police report. The media caught on, and the whole situation went into a full throttle circus of pandemonium.

But let's not confuse the circus with the constructive ideas and words of Jhon Velasco, director of the Center for Non-Violence and Prevention Programs, who took this as a call of duty to educate as many people on campus as he could. He had an open dialogue with students Wednesday in Williams Hall, and two weeks ago in the Student Center he delivered his "Power of Words" speech to get the community to think long and hard about racial epithets and to look inward at their own racial prejudices.

A student came to him with the idea of a rally at The Village. "They will have a rally," said Velasco, Wednesday night, "called 'Take Back our Community.' We have to come together. We have to work at this together."

Montclair State University is one of the most diverse schools in the nation, with 35 percent of the campus community being students of color, a melting pot within itself that has taken the necessary actions to help students make adjustments in dealing with other students of different ethnicities. During freshman orientation, incoming students are entertained with a skit that deals with violence against women, alcohol and drug issues, as well as diversity. This is supplemented by a one-credit course called New Student Experience, which

needs to be taken by all MSU students in order to graduate. Still, with all these precautions, why are there racial slurs being scribbled in The Village?

"Usually, these types of crimes happen in the first semester in Bohn," added Velasco, which makes sense because of an interesting stat he mentioned: The great state of New Jersey is one of the most segregated states in the union despite its diverse nature. It seems here at MSU, we can't change where we live, but when we are brought into a liberal arts education, we should broaden our horizons and delve into different cultures and ethnicities. A learned, well-rounded man or woman would do this, but there are still some creatures who have slipped through the cracks who go out of their way to be not only racist but downright pathetic.

As a school and as a community, we should not let these acts reflect on the rest of the student body. First off, we do not even know if an MSU student wrote that hateful word on the apartment door, and secondly, we do not know what ethnicity that person is. If we should blame anyone, it should be the family and friends of the person who wrote this, who filled this person up with so much ignorance and hate that they felt compelled, whether drunk or sober, to write this message loud and clear.

MSU is on board with the rest of the student body in taking preventative measures. For example, The Anti-Bias Task Force, which formed about a year ago, protects students of race, color, gender, sexual orientation and religious beliefs. We can't help but think that in a student body this size, we are going to get dregs; it's statically credible, an inevitable unfortunate event we'd like to control, but for a small majority, we cannot. Will the media attention spawn another ugly hate crime? It's uncertain. As for Velasco, he said, "I look at this as raising awareness. As a community, we are not going to stand for this."

The Montclarion

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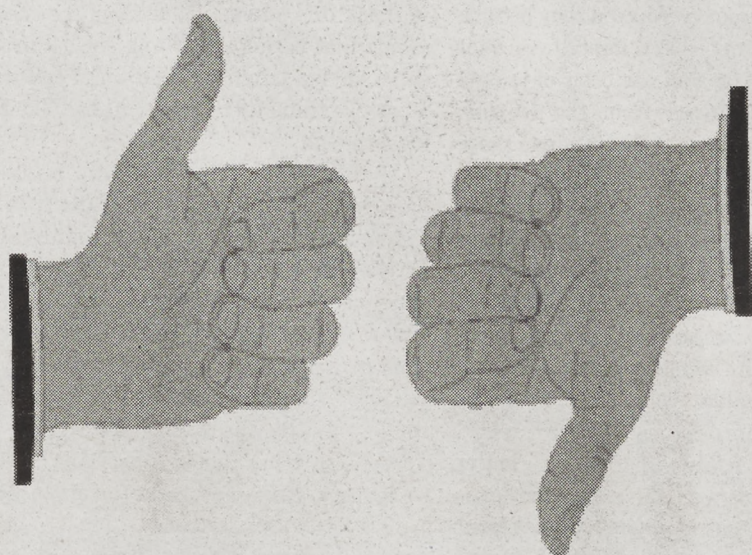
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WEEK IN REVIEW



Thumbs up

to the Rutgers's women's
basketball team for not
stinking as much as the men.

Thumbs down

to the SGA for postponing
their weekly meeting
because they did not have
quorum.

Thumbs up

to the final season of *The Sopranos* debuting this
Sunday.

Thumbs down

to wearing white before
Memorial Day.

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Jessica Sproviero | The Montclarion

African Violence Spilling Over

The Central African Republic is Facing Rebel Forces

Almost every day, I am frightfully reminded of the horror and violence that is still persisting and worsening in western Sudan, Darfur. It is bad enough that 200,000+ lives have been taken, along with millions displaced from homes, but now thousands of people from the northern part of Central African Republic (CAR) are having to leave their homes as well due to the escalating violence between the CAR's army and rebel organizations.

As if Chad does not have enough problems with the Darfur crisis, there are now 7,000 more refugees that have fled there from the CAR over the past few weeks. According to the BBC news website, "50,000 more refugees are thought to be hiding in the forest after being forced to flee their villages." (BBC News. "Thousands flee from CAR Violence." Saturday, March 25, 2006.)

The United Nations Refugee agency has announced warnings that this could create a "catastrophic situation." If you ask me, the whole situation has become catastrophic. The violence in Darfur has spilled into Chad, and now we have the people of CAR also in danger. If we cannot call that a catastrophic event, I don't know what is.

Every day I read the newspaper, and just when I thought things could not get any worse in these African regions, I am sadly proved wrong by the newspapers. I am left

"... The whole situation has become catastrophic."

puzzled and amazed at what little improvement we have made for these nations that are suffering tremendously.

The violence that has started in Darfur has now spread to two other nations. Who knows where else it could spread? It seems that this entire region is rapidly falling apart because other countries, including ourselves, have not done enough to help them.

International aid has been the key to sustaining the lives of many of the Darfurians. However, there has not been enough aid to support the lives of the people of CAR because many people are unaware of the crisis that is going on there. According to the top official of the World Food Program in CAR (Jean Charles Dei), there was no food available to feed the 1,700 people hiding there.

We must not forget about these people who are suffering in the CAR and support these people as we have been supporting Darfur. In addition, we must continue to pressure our government and the United Nations to send a stronger peacekeeping force to these troubled regions. International aid must be sent immediately sent to these people. Their lives depend on it.

Johna Mailolli, a nutrition and food science major, is in his first year as a columnist of The Montclarion.

The Tale of Tillman, Tragedy and Torment

The Army has Still not Blamed Anybody for Cover-Up

I remember the 2004 NFL football season. The New York Jets went 10-6, and if it weren't for shaky field goal kicker Doug



TOM SHIELDS
OPINION EDITOR

Brien, they would have beaten the Pittsburgh Steelers to advance to the AFC Championship game. It was also the season that NFL players wore Pat Tillman's number 40 on their helmet in Week 2 as a remembrance. The Arizona Cardinals, the team that Tillman played for, would wear the decal for the rest of the season and retire his number. That was three years ago.

On March 26, the Pentagon released their report on Tillman's death and cover-up. U.S. Defense Department's Acting Inspector General Thomas Gimble, who headed up the investigation, stated, "We thought there was never an attempt to cover up that we saw," meaning now the Army will have to decide if charges should be handed out to soldiers and high-ranking Army officials who allegedly covered up Tillman's death.

If you're not familiar with the story of Tillman's death, it unraveled as follows: after the 2001 NFL season, Tillman, a professional football player, joined the second battalion 75th Ranger Regiment with his brother, Kevin, who turned down a professional baseball career to combat terrorism.

Both were stationed in Afghanistan, and on April 22, 2004, Tillman was killed in action. At first, the Army reported he was killed by Afghan insurgents while charging

them in battle. This was a fabrication.

It is not clear what the Army's motivation was to make up this rumor, but weeks later it was found out that Tillman was not killed by Afghan insurgents but actually his own men in a horrific "friendly fire" accident. Tillman was shot three times in the head after a second U.S. Ranger squad fired at him multiple times, despite Tillman signaling them to cease-fire. He threw a smoke bomb as an act of desperation to show he was an American soldier, and when he rose from his cover, he was shot and killed. His body armor was burned by his own men to deter any suspicion of fratricide, but within three days, it was known by high-ranking Army officials, including General John Abizaid, who awarded Tillman the Silver Star and Purple Heart despite the circumstances.

Tillman was buried without his parents knowing his real cause of death until almost a month later, when the Army concluded it was because of friendly fire. Mary Tillman, Tillman's mother, when finding out the truth, stated, "The fact that he was the ultimate team player and watched his own men kill him is absolutely heartbreaking and tragic. The fact they lied about it afterward is disgusting."

Would Tillman be any less of a hero if the public, and especially his parents, knew of his actual death? Probably not. This man turned down a \$3.6 million contract to fight for his country, but the Army covered it up anyway, because they wanted to immortalize Tillman as a national combatant celebrity.

The cover-up is not only downright decep-

SEE 'TILLMAN' ON P. 21

The Montclarion Mailbag

Dr. Pennington Clears Up Editorial Mistake, and an MSU Students Speaks Out Against "American" Article

Dear Editor,

The editorial regarding the new deregistration process suggested that the University should have a payment plan for students. The author obviously was unaware that there already is a payment plan in process. Students interested in utilizing the service can find further information at http://www.montclair.edu/bursar/payment.htm#payment_plan

In addition, I would like to clarify that bills either need to be paid in full, or students must make arrangements for payment by the due date. This latter point means that all financial aid responsibilities have been taken care of and approvals for payment are in place or that a payment plan has been established. Further information and reminders for students will be forthcoming during the next few months.

Karen Pennington
Vice President of Student Development and Campus Life

Dear Editor,

I am responding to Chantal Gabel's article "Putting America Back in American." As I was reading her article before my class, it struck me how narrow-minded and conservative it sounded. I am not critiquing Gabel herself, because that would be unacceptable and unproductive. Instead, I am critiquing her article, because there are points she makes that I do not agree with. There are

also points that I do agree with.

Before I start with my responses to her points, ridiculous as they might be, let me first declare my level of "Americanness." I was born here, as well as my siblings. I was born and raised and am still currently living in Newark. My parents immigrated to the United States in 1975 from Portugal.

They were born and raised in a rural village called Murtosa, where people raised their livestock and lived without luxury. My father attained his American citizenship in the early 1980s. My mother never became a citizen, but instead has remained a permanent resident of the United States. (Yes, she has a green card and a social security card.)

I am American; I follow American politics, American TV, American music, American customs and traditions, American legal holidays and American life. But I am a "hyphenated American." I am a Portuguese-American because I am not willing to forget about all the struggles of poverty, dictatorship and living conditions that my past generations endured so that I can sit here today writing my opinion to a school newspaper.

I am one of those "disrespectful" people who have a flag hanging from my rearview mirror in my car that Gabel mentions in her article. To add fuel to the fire, I also have a Portugal soccer scarf on the backseat of my car in full view, and at home, I have a Portugal flag waving lower than the American flag in the driveway. To that effect, I am even more so disrespectful to America because I speak Portuguese at home, eat Portuguese foods 70 percent of the time and

prefer to watch unbiased news from Portugal rather than the American Fox Network's airings. I must say that it is my choice to eat sardines and kale instead of a burger and fries that will contribute to what Gabel calls "America's downfall." I apologize.

According to Gabel, it is demeaning to call yourself a hyphenated American. My question is why is this demeaning? If you call yourself a hyphenated American, it is because, not only do you understand American culture, you also understand your ancestral culture. Also, let us not forget that this nation's forefathers were from abroad (the British Isles), and America has enjoyed the benefits that the millions of immigrants have given to this nation over the centuries.

In reality, the forefathers of this country were "English," "Scottish" or "Irish," and only after the Revolutionary War did they become "American." It was these forefathers that introduced apple pie and the basis of today's American law (derived from the English Common Law). Is it right that we reap these benefits and forget who planted them? Since that time, many new nations have arisen, so it is only right that people call themselves Iraqi-Americans or Ecuadorian-Americans.

On the Theodore Roosevelt quote, it is probably the worst pro-America quote I've ever read. In essence, it states that if you don't assimilate completely with the American culture, return to your homeland and allow actual Americans to better themselves. If this were the case, Americans would be working all the hard manual labor that they passed over to the newly arrived

immigrants. Where were the Americans when the Mexican-Americans protested one day last year and didn't return to the lettuce fields of California? While the price of lettuce tripled, Americans were home watching *American Idol*. Where were the Americans when it was the Italian-Americans and Irish-Americans laying down the cobblestones of New York's streets? Ah! That's right. They were busy bettering themselves.

I find it funny that Gabel argues about foreign-born Americans. First she says that some of the most proud Americans and most intelligent Americans are foreign-born. She then goes on to say that this country is continually being set back by people who don't appreciate living here. Taking her first statement and connecting it with her second statement, it must be actual Americans that set back this nation. This being the case, it seems that perhaps teaching American students foreign languages and world culture is a positive thing then. Gabel doesn't like that idea, though.

If this country is continually being set back, how come it is so easy to blame it on the immigrants or descendants of immigrants? Do they not work as hard, if not harder, than Americans? Isn't it possible that perhaps Americans set America back? I love hearing such nonsense as "the illegals are taking all our jobs." My question is "are Americans willing to work the jobs that illegals work?" I rarely see or hear about Americans flocking to the corn fields and cattle farms to work.

SEE 'MAILBAG' ON P. 21

MAILBAG

CONTINUED FROM P. 20

The illegals work jobs that we Americans are too lazy to do: build roadways and construct buildings. If you are one of those complaining about illegals taking your job, pause and consider where your "American job" has really disappeared to. Blame corporate America for shipping their headquarters and the majority of their jobs overseas to India and Hong Kong. That is where your job is going, not to an illegal in California.

Another ridiculous point Gabel makes is that she doesn't want her grandchildren living in a country where a sole language doesn't exist. Here's a little tidbit of information for you: the United States does not have an official legal language. English is not the official language of the United States; it is simply the most predominantly spoken. Also, there are numerous nations around the world that have more than one language as the legal language, and they coexist harmoniously. Spain and Italy, to which Gabel attributes her ancestry, are two countries in which a sole language doesn't exist. Italy has dialects that are incomprehensible unless you are from that region, such as Neapolitan, Sardinian and Sicilian, not to mention that French is spoken in Northwest Italy. Spain, even more interestingly, has languages completely different from Standard Castilian Spanish, such as Galician, Catalan and Basque. Other nations with several official languages are Canada (French and English), Switzerland (German, French, Italian and Romansh), Paraguay (Spanish and Guarani), Finland (Finnish and Swedish), South Africa (Afrikaans, English and 9 others) and India (Hindi, English and 21 others).

On the topic of language, Gabel expects everyone in the United States to speak English. How about when Americans travel to other countries? How many times do you see Americans even attempting to speak the language of whatever nation they are visiting? We assume that wherever we go, we will always be able to speak English and be understood. When we attempt to speak another language while visiting another country, we typically mimic it and joke about it, which is definitely disrespectful. An aunt of mine owns a café shop in Southern Portugal in the tourist region of Algarve, and many times American tourists show up speaking nothing but English. That's a definite sign of assimilation right, Gabel?

Another point Gabel makes that I don't quite understand is how being aware and engulfing yourself in your ancestral background dishonors the United States. More important and significant than dishonoring your nation is dishonoring yourself. When you rid yourself of your heritage or when you refuse your heritage, you dishonor yourself. You will never know yourself if you allow yourself to be dishonored, and you will create a narrow-minded and ethnocentric society. This kind of society might have gone down well in the 1500s but not in 2007.

"While those countries look beautiful in the brochures, our families left them for a reason." Another terrible point made by Gabel. If our families were basing it on aesthetics, then it is safe to say that they probably would have never left their homelands. But aesthetics have no value when you are trying to find a place to live, eat and provide for your family. If aesthetics did matter, then I'm sure my parents wouldn't have picked Newark to live in, of all places. But they did pick Newark because it's where the opportunity to make a living was.

Surprisingly, I do agree on some points

with Gabel. I agree that Bank of America shouldn't give credit cards to immigrants without a social security number. As a working student, I can tell you how difficult it is to build your credit because of so many debts. Students in this country are often forgotten about. What many don't realize is that we are the future teachers, doctors and lawyers of this country. We certainly will not be forgotten when the government deducts its share of our earnings. I also agree that we should help other nations with their problems, but not while forgetting about our own problems. We are so interested in democratizing and liberating the Mid-East, but it is our nation that should be democratized and liberated!

Lastly, I agree that we should evaluate ourselves. We should evaluate ourselves so that we can better ourselves and therefore better our society. It is with this evaluation that I realize how much both America and Portugal are dear to me. It is with this evaluation that I appreciate even more those people who do not forget their roots.

Sergio Barbosa
History Major
Senior

TILLMAN

CONTINUED FROM P. 20

tive and immoral, but the Pentagon report that followed is even more pathetic because they could not find any malicious intention of a cover-up despite high ranking officials knowing Tillman's real cause of death and even his own fellow soldiers going to incredible lengths to keep the friendly fire accident under raps.

This is not an attack on any soldiers fighting overseas. Friendly fire is an unfortunate part of war, and nobody wants to be known for killing a fellow soldier, especially a renowned counterpart. But the fact that the Army covered up this event strictly for the bottom line is despicable. They not only lied to the public, but more importantly, they lied to the family, who in their darkest hour should have been served the truth so they could piece together their son's final moments. The truth is all they had, and it was denied from them.

Tillman's father said it best. "I think they thought they could control it, and they realized that their recruiting efforts were going to go to hell in a hand basket if the truth of his death got out. They blew up their poster boy." Officers high and low should be held accountable for their actions, whether planned or not.

Tom Shields, a history major, is in his first year as Opinion Editor of The Montclarion.



courtesy of mctcampus.com



courtesy of mctcampus.com



courtesy of mctcampus.com

Question of The Week

"How do you feel about the school de-registering students if mandatory payments are not made by Aug. 20?"

JORDYN SATZ



Year: Senior
Major: Communication Studies

"I think that is completely unfair. Most students who go here work to pay their tuition, and if they are late by a few days, they shouldn't be penalized."

ASHLEY JOUANEAU



Year: Sophomore
Major: Public Relations

"I think that it is unfair, and if anything, de-registration should come into action after the first week of classes."

DAN HENNESSEY



Year: Sophomore
Major: Adult Fitness

"Unbelievable! Outrageous! I'm perplexed. College is a scam set up by the government to make money off a society that says you need a degree to succeed. We have power in numbers; let's do something about this."

ERIC SYLVESTER



Year: Senior
Major: Physical Education

"It seems like this school is getting worse every month. Students on campus are not rich, especially me. To me, it's just another way to get students out of school for the special incoming freshmen."

BRIAN DECARLO
Year: Senior
Major: Physical Education



"I don't like it. As a student that has paid all my bills, I feel as though I, or anyone else, should get some leeway when it comes to financial issues."

DIANA ABREU



Year: Junior
Major: Psychology

"I think that it is unfair and is going to mess a lot of students up in the long run."

The Montclarion Mailbag Policy

• All letters must be typed, preferably on disk (text only format) or via e-mail. • Letters exceeding 800 words will not be considered for publication. • Once received, letters are property of The Montclarion and may be edited for length, content and libel. • Letters will not be printed unless they include the author's name, major, last four digits of SSN and phone number or e-mail address. • Only one letter by an author will be printed each month. • Submission deadline: Monday, 10:00 p.m. • Letters may be submitted through e-mail to msuopinion@gmail.com or sent to The Montclarion - Attn: Opinion Page Editor, Montclair State University, 113 Student Center Annex, Montclair, NJ 07043.

Question of the Week opinions are views expressed by the students of Montclair State University, and are not necessarily the views of The Montclarion.

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University Hall, 7th Floor

The Graduate School at



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Aries

(March 20 – April 19)

Financial partnerships, home relationships and large investments will this week drain your emotional reserves. After mid-week, expect friends to challenge your opinions.

Taurus

(April 20 – May 20)

Business and social invitations may this week be postponed. After Tuesday, expect a close friend to openly discuss vital changes to security, finances or family expectations. Long-term career and home aspirations may be a central theme. New ideas will soon prove reliable.

Gemini

(May 21 – June 20)

After Monday, a close friend may reveal ongoing romantic problems or lingering social fears. Key relationships and trusted friendships will steadily deepen in the coming weeks, so not to worry. At present, however, loved ones may be reluctant of commitment.

Cancer

(June 21 – July 21)

Unexpected business cancellations or sudden job changes may trigger bold family discussions this week. If possible, schedule extra private time in the home and wait for a calmer atmosphere. Fresh ideas and renewed career ambitions will soon become a top priority.

Leo

(July 22 – August 21)

Before mid-week, a close friend may boldly announce new lifestyle goals or a risky career plan. Private financial agreements, fast investments or complex land documents may be a central theme. Workable ideas will soon be exposed as challenging but inspired. Remain optimistic; secure lasting contracts.

Virgo

(August 22 – September 21)

Money promises and revised employment strategies are positive this week but potentially scattered. Over the next few days, expect loved ones to unknowingly provide misinformation or misplace key documents. Clearly define new expectations; close relatives and romantic partners may need extra guidance.

Libra

(September 22 – October 22)

For many Librans, rekindled romance and new sensuality are now highly distracting. Before mid-week, expect friends and lovers to compete for your time, attention and loyalty. Although all looks positive, loved ones may still express lingering doubts or anxieties.

Scorpio

(October 23 – November 21)

A relative or friend may this week request personal information or private romantic details. Routine family plans, social expectations or established group activities may all be affected. Ask probing questions but expect a delayed response; loved ones may now need extra time to process difficult emotions.

Sagittarius

(November 22 – December 20)

Team assignments and group plans may be unexpectedly cancelled this week. Over the next few days, friends, colleagues or close relatives may provide faulty social information or mistaken facts. Predictable patterns may not be easily established.

Capricorn

(December 21 – January 19)

Confidence and social optimism will now bring lasting change to stalled relationships. Over the next eight days, many Capricorns will expand their emotional influence with friends, colleagues and older relatives.

Aquarius

(January 20 – February 17)

Although reluctant to ask, a friend or lover may this week need extra guidance and support. Business expenses, minor disputes with colleagues or revised assignments may all be bothersome. Encourage creative solutions. Enforce fresh workplace strategies.

Pisces

(February 18 – March 19)

Bosses or managers may this week improve established policies. Daily instructions, financial promises or job promotions may all be affected. Workplace change will be a continuing theme for several weeks; remain patient but respond quickly to permanent documents.

Child Care Wanted

Summer care for two girls, 8 and 4. (They're adorable.) Weekdays after camp from end of June. Some later evenings and infrequent weekend evenings from early June. References and license required. Within walking distance of campus.

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Babysitter needed for Montclair: seven-year-old girl and three-year-old boy. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 3:00 - 8:00 p.m. and must have a car. Please contact: Phoebe (973) 783-6114.

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For two independent, charming sisters, ages six and three. One afternoon/schoolnight per week. No chauffeuring duties, though walks around Upper Montclair possible.

Reply: wmitty2166@yahoo.com

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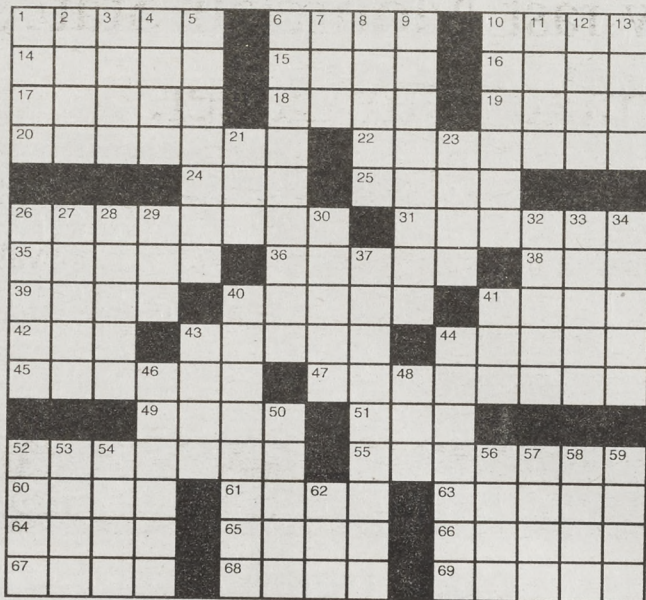
More Info.

For information on placing your own ad, consult the third page or call Kevin Schwoebel at: (973) 655-5237

Crossword

- ACROSS
- Inflatable floaters
 - Renown
 - Annapolis inst.
 - George who was Mary
 - Related
 - Hired muscle
 - River's end, often
 - Pusher's pursuer
 - Fabricate
 - Black mark
 - Jostled
 - La-la leader
 - Accomplishes
 - Unfounded
 - Jupiter neighbor
 - Knowing
 - Pooped
 - Dundee denial
 - Great review
 - Proximity bombs
 - Houston school
 - out (scrape by)
 - Soccer passes
 - Cloyed
 - Family cars
 - Aggressive drivers
 - Supervisor
 - Have debts
 - Stretchy
 - Mosquito barrier
 - Flat charge
 - Alan or Cheryl
 - Miserable dwelling
 - Picture on a PC
 - Canal of song
 - Expunge
 - Retained
 - Transmit
 - Intuit

- DOWN
- Funnyman Foxx
 - Away from the wind
 - Movie
 - Carryall bag
 - Take by surprise
 - Outstanding!
 - Alias acronym



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4/4/07

Solutions

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- Lamb's mama
- Kind of crow?
- Satie or Estrada
- Lingerie trim
- On the summit of
- Barreled along
- Terrible ruler?
- Loch in the Highlands
- Elation
- Cacophony

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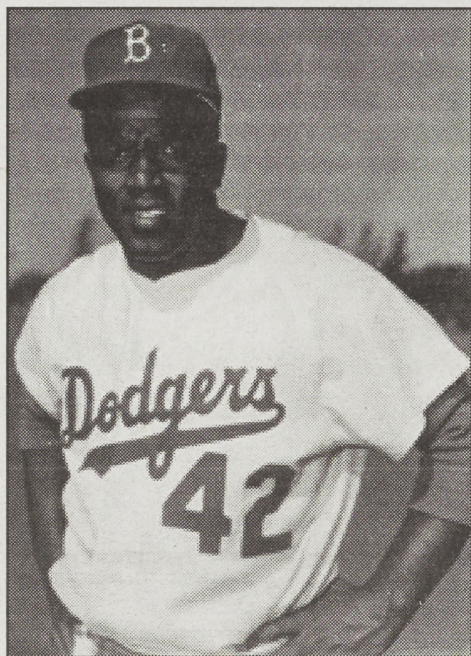
What Rustles My Feathers

Mike Johnson Returns With a Controversial Discussion About Sports, Race and the Call for Equality

Mike Johnson
Assistant Sports Editor

It was 60 years ago this season when Major League Baseball allowed Jackie Robinson to finally play ball in the major leagues. Not only did he prove to all baseball players, owners and fans that he was worthy of playing with the best, but he also showed Major League Baseball that allowing black athletes to participate would improve the overall competition in the majors.

Since then, the percentage of black play-



courtesy of veaweteach.org

Jackie Robinson became the first black person to play in Major League baseball in 1947 and opened the door for many others.

ers has been on a steady incline, and Major League Baseball has become a very diverse sport. That is, until recently. Both blacks and whites have been on a decline, while Latinos and Asians have become more prominent in the sport. While Asians currently make up approximately three percent of baseball, Latinos make up a surprising 30 percent; a 16 percent increase since 1991. Since 1991, the white percentage of baseball players has dropped eight percent, and the black populace has dropped 10 percent, the smallest number of black players in about 30 years.

A call for more black players in MLB has been made by Cleveland Indians pitcher C.C. Sabathia and others, but can we really ask people to do something they don't want to do? It would be impossible to force people of any gender or race to play in a sport they have no interest in.

So, what is the reason for the decline of white and black people in MLB? It is the overwhelming talent of the international players who are emerging from countries like the Dominican Republic, Cuba, Venezuela, Panama and Japan. The scouts are looking for talent, not race.

Moving away from MLB, the NBA has become the dominant league when it comes to black players. As of 2007, black players make up approximately 80 percent of the league, and those numbers are still growing, seeing that 63 percent of Division I basketball male athletes are black. What's even more astonishing is that 95 percent of these schools have 50 or more percent of their white student athletes graduate, whereas

only 54 percent of these schools have 50 or more percent of their black student athletes graduate.

This doesn't mean that they fail or drop out due to academic reasons. What it means is that black student athletes declare themselves eligible for the NBA draft more commonly than white student athletes do, resulting in a heavier influx of black players into the NBA.

The NHL, which historically has had the highest percentage of white people in its league, has made few attempts to attract black athletes, but over the past decade, that has been starting to change. The NHL is currently made up of 95 percent whites, but only 5 percent of the league is American. The NHL has been called a racist league and has been targeted

by many people, but the fact is that there just aren't many black athletes who are interested in playing hockey.

The NFL, which is made up of 70 percent black people, has taken major steps to get more black head coaches by instituting the Rooney Rule, which requires any team engaged in hiring a head coach to assemble a racially diverse candidate slate.

I can understand this rule because there are some owners who would not want to hire a black coach, and it is extremely narrow-minded to think this way. There are a lot of black players who played for teams that never had a white coach in their lives, so it may be difficult to transition, but quotas are meant to help, not hurt, teams and should be kept separate from players and coaches. It would be one thing to hire a coach due to quotas, but signing players to fulfill minority quotas would be absurd.

Jess Sproviero | The Montclarion

SEE 'RUFFLES' P. 25



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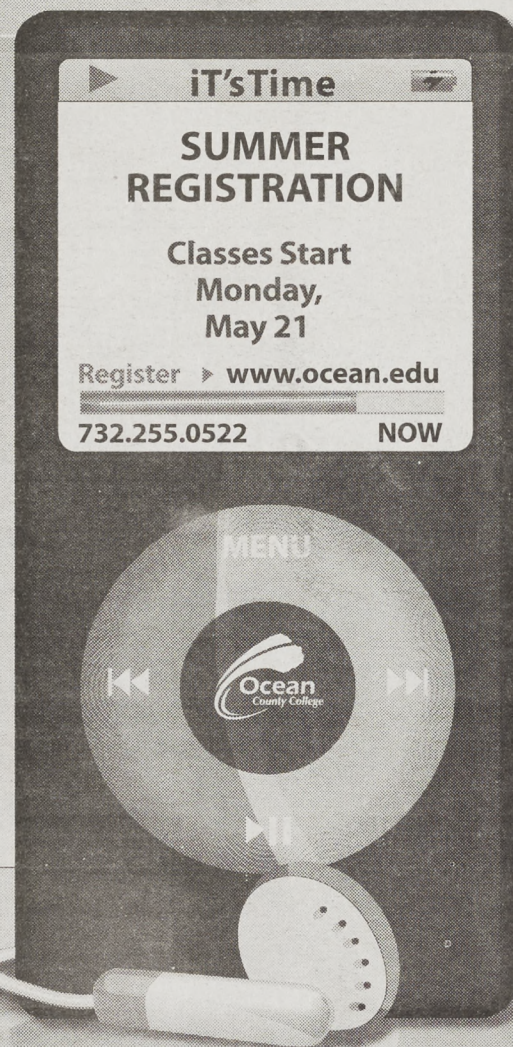
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RUSTLES

CONTINUED FROM P. 24

Quotas in the workplace may work, but racial quotas would not suit what sports are all about. The whole purpose of competition is to have the very best players all face each other and see who wins. If we start needing to fulfill quotas, then teams will be gathering people from all around the globe only to lose to better players. If our favorite baseball team were made up of all Mongolians and won the World Series, would we honestly be mad because there wasn't one white, black or Spanish player on the team? We would be ridiculous to feel that way.

The idea of rooting for a team is to cheer them on unconditionally. If you still can't comprehend that, Webster's Dictionary defines unconditional as: "adjective: not limited by conditions; absolute: an unconditional promise." After all, when a player puts on his jersey, he is no longer black, white, Asian, Hispanic or any other race. He becomes part of that team, and that is his race.

Let's all stop looking for ways to make our own race the superior one when it comes to sports. We could argue that the best player in any sport is either white or black, but when it comes down to it, does it really matter what color they were? It's all about how many championships they have or how they

helped their team, but it will be a long time before people come to realize that.

And that is what rustles my feathers!

Percentage of Black Athletes
by League

NBA	NFL
80%	70%

MLB	NHL
8%	1%

NASCAR
0%

What Rustles Your Feathers?

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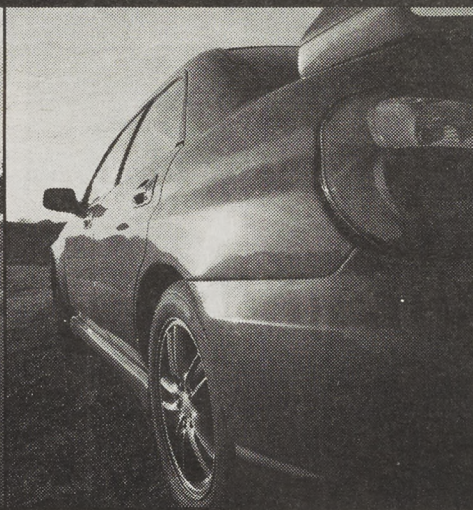
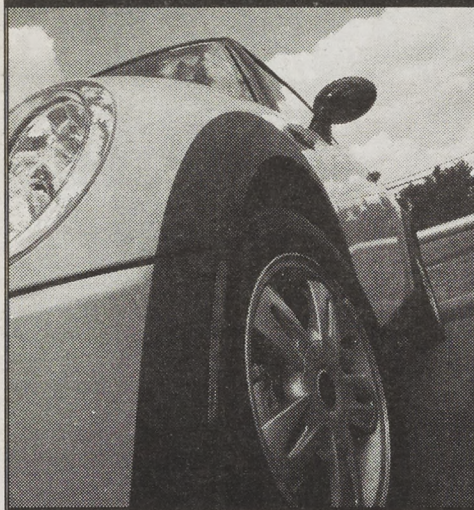
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Red Hawk Softball Special

Mike Johnson
Assistant Sports Editor

A diagram of a softball diamond with player portraits and names placed around it. The players are arranged as follows:

- 13** (Catcher): Maureen Shockley
- 9** (First Base): Kelly Nance
- 8** (Second Base): Jennifer Jiminez
- 2** (Third Base): Megan Durkin
- 4** (Outfield): Whitney Driver
- 12** (First Base): Jackie Ferranti
- 18** (Second Base): Carolyn McCrea
- 22** (Third Base): Amanda Libsley
- 11** (Pitcher): Kelly Karp
- 10** (Pitcher): Megan Tantom

2007 Season Stats

BATTING

	Average	At Bats	Hits	Homeruns	REI	On Base Percentage
Livsley	.288	46	13	1	13	.403
Durkin	.263	57	15	0	7	.333
Ferranti	.431	65	28	4	17	.532
Jiminez	.500	66	33	6	31	.566
Karp	.365	52	19	1	13	.468
Shockley	.328	61	20	0	9	.388
Driver	.194	36	7	0	3	.256
Tantum	.311	61	19	3	19	.358
Aguirre	1.000	2	2	0	2	1.000
Bryson	.385	13	5	0	1	.429
Gannon	.000	1	0	0	0	.500
Lustenberger	.600	5	3	0	3	.714
Nance	.395	38	15	2	15	.467
Bodak	.136	22	3	1	4	.240

PITCHING

	ERA	Appearances	WL	K	IP	Opponent's Average
McCrea	0.99	16	13-1	89	91.2	.181
Warnock	1.73	9	6-1	26	36.1	.197
Persico	0.00	2	0-0	2	4.0	.167
Karp	21.00	2	0-0	0	1.0	.400

Pitchers

A collection of portraits of the team's pitchers, each with a number and name:

- 3**: Dana Warnock
- 6**: Elia Persico
- 19**: Amanda Aguirre
- 7**: Megan Bryson
- 5**: Corinne Gannon
- 1**: Ashley Lustenberger
- Coach**: Anita Kubicka
- Cheryl**: Cheryl Bodak

MSU SOFTBALL STADIUM, MONTCLAIR, NJ

Game of the Week

SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 2007
1:00 P.M.
MONTCLAIR STATE
RED HAWKS
vs.
RUTGERS
CAMDEN
19-2 (4-0)
Softball
14-8 (3-1)
Lacrosse (Men)

	Skyline	Overall
Stevens	5-0	7-2
Merchant Marine	3-0	6-2
MSU	3-1	4-3
Farmingdale State	3-1	3-6
Kean	1-2	5-3
Maritime College	1-2	3-4
Richard Stockton	1-2	3-4
Manhattanville	0-2	3-4
Centenary	0-2	2-5
Mt. Saint Vincent	0-5	1-8

This Week

 Sat. vs. Manhattanville, 1 p.m.
 Wed. @ Centenary, 4:00 p.m.

Last Week's Results

4/1 - MSU 13, Farmingdale State 12

Lacrosse (Women)

	Skyline	Overall
MSU	1-0	5-2
Stevens	1-0	4-4
Mt. Saint Vincent	1-0	2-4
Farmingdale State	1-1	4-1
Kean	0-0	3-3
Manhattanville	0-1	2-4
Centenary	0-2	3-3

This Week

 Sat. @ Farmingdale State, 12 p.m.
 Wed. vs. Manhattanville, 7 p.m.

Last Week's Results

 3/31 - MSU 22, Centenary 3
 4/1 - MSU 7, Lycoming 14

Baseball

	NJAC	Overall
Ramapo	4-0	17-4
Richard Stockton	2-1-1	14-5-1
Kean	2-1	13-3
Rowan	2-1	10-8
MSU	2-2	9-10
Rutgers-Newark	2-2	5-16
William Paterson	1-2-1	10-6-2
TCNJ	1-2	13-6
NJCU	1-2	10-9
Rutgers-Camden	0-4	9-11

This Week

 Fri. @ NJCU, 3 p.m.
 Sat. vs. Rutgers-Camden (DH), 12 p.m.

Last Week's Results

 3/30 - MSU 5, Ramapo 6
 4/3 - MSU 4, Eastern Conn. 5

Softball

	NJAC	Overall
MSU	4-0	19-2
Kean	3-1	15-3
Ramapo	3-1	14-4
William Paterson	3-1	16-6
Rutgers-Camden	3-1	14-8
Richard Stockton	2-2	13-5
Rowan	2-2	14-8
TCNJ	0-4	10-8
Rutgers-Newark	0-4	8-12
NJCU	0-4	4-14

This Week

 Thurs. vs. Hunter (DH), 3 p.m.
 Sat. vs. Rutgers-Camden (DH), 1 p.m.

Last Week's Results

 4/3 - MSU 6, Rutgers-Newark 0
 4/3 - MSU 8, Rutgers-Newark 2

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Sports

The Student Voice of Montclair State University Since 1928



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Baseball (9-10)

Softball (19-2)

Men's Lacrosse (5-3)

Women's Lacrosse (6-2)

Red Hawks Drop Close One to Warriors

Clark's Two-Run Homer Not Enough as Eastern Connecticut Defeats Montclair State 5-4 at Home

Karl de Vries
Editor-in-Chief

The Montclair State Red Hawks lost a heartbreaker to the Eastern Connecticut State University Warriors on Tuesday afternoon, 5-4. On a beautiful, sunny day at Yogi Berra Stadium, 119 fans were treated to a close game, one with plenty of drama up until its final out.

Red Hawks' starter Enrique Gomez, despite giving up 10 hits over seven innings, surrendered only four runs, three of which were earned.

In fact, he looked strong throughout the game, faltering only in the top of the second, in which he allowed three runs on five hits, including three consecutive run-scoring hits by Eastern Connecticut.

Opposing the southpaw was right-hander Joe Esposito, who appeared in command throughout his six innings.

Pitching for much of the game with a comfortable lead, Esposito threw 56 of his 90 pitches for strikes and made a nice play to finish off the first, going behind the mound to field a tapper before firing the ball to first.

In the bottom of the second, the Red Hawks closed the gap to 3-2 with three hits, with RBIs by Kevin Cuozi and Michael Nunes. However, the Hawks would not fully pull even with the Warriors until the sixth, in Esposito's final inning of work.

Robert Clark's two-run homer over the Continental Airlines sign in left-center field, just out of the reach of Eastern Connecticut left fielder Eric O'Toole, pulled the Red

Hawks even with the Warriors at four.

Upon his arrival at home plate, nearly the entire team was there to congratulate their third baseman.

But unfortunately for the Red Hawks, the euphoria of tying up the game would be short-lived. Jairo Mendez, pitching in relief of Gomez, was touched for two hits, including a double by Eastern Connecticut pinch hitter Trey Bongiovanni.

Pinch runner Jon Dalton would come around to score on second-baseman Zack Thomas's RBI single, completing a marvelous afternoon for Thomas in which he went 3-for-5 with two RBI.

The ninth inning, however, certainly had its fair share of excitement for the Red Hawks. With one out, Ed Kloepping, pinch-hitting for shortstop James Scelzo, rolled a grounder to third, only to watch it thrown away by Dalton.

But despite having a runner in scoring position with only one out, the Red Hawks were unable to drive him in; a pop-up and a fly ball to left field by Scott Evangelist would result in a save for Eastern Connecticut pitcher Jason LaVorgna.

While LaVorgna's team improved to 10-6, the Red Hawks fell below the .500 mark to stand at 9-10.

With Wednesday's game against Rensselaer rained out, Montclair State baseball's next game will be on the road this Friday against New Jersey City University's Gothic Knights.

They host Rutgers-Camden for a doubleheader at Yogi Berra Stadium on Saturday. First pitch is set for 12 p.m.



Karl de Vries | The Montclarion

Robert Clark hit a home run in the sixth inning, but it would not be enough to keep the Red Hawks ahead against the Eastern Connecticut Warriors on Tuesday.

Softball Continues Winning Ways

McCrea Throws Three-Hit Shutout, Jimenez and Nance Each Drive in Two As Red Hawks Sweep Rutgers-Newark

Robert Aitken
Assistant Sports Editor

The Montclair State Lady Red Hawks are on the verge of a very special season. After their doubleheader sweeps against Richard Stockton (13-5, 2-2) and Rutgers-Newark (8-12, 0-4), the Red Hawks are on top of the NJAC standings with a 19-2 record, 4-0 in the NJAC. Their last loss was more than three weeks ago, when they were in the Cusic Classic, losing to now 11-1 Keene State College by the score of 3-0.

In the four games, Montclair outscored their opponents by a combined 26-4 score. Montclair State only trailed for one half inning, when Rutgers-Newark took a 2-1 lead in the bottom of the second of Game Two.

Montclair would rally for four runs in the top of the third and never looked back.

Junior ace Carolyn McCrea continued her

dominance this year with wins in three of the four games. In total, McCrea pitched 17 innings, gave up 13 hits and only one run and struck out 18 batters. The wins further increase McCrea's mind-blowing stats to a 13-1 record with a 0.99 ERA, giving up 80 hits and striking out 89 batters in just 91.2 innings pitched.

Sophomore Jennifer Jimenez

had eight hits in the four games, including her sixth home run of the season. Jimenez has been an absolute offensive juggernaut for her team. Even though the entire team is usually producing, Jimenez is consistently the one with the big hit of the game. The sophomore is third in the conference in batting average (.508), tied for second in hits (30) and second in runs batted in (29). Jimenez was awarded NJAC Player of the Week, as well as ECAC Division III Metro Player of the Week.

As a team, Montclair is getting it done on both offense and defense. The Red Hawks are second in the NJAC in team batting average (.347) and second in hits allowed (82). Montclair also leads the conference in on-base percentage (.432), team ERA (1.35), strikeouts (105), wins (17) and runs allowed (26). In one of the most competitive conferences in all of Division III, Montclair is definitely making a splash nationwide and could expect a national ranking in the coming weeks.

Montclair is now on a 15-game winning

streak, tied for the longest in school history.

The Lady Hawks last won 15 straight in 1999, which was the last year they reached the NCAA tournament. Since then, the team has won the last seven ECAC Division III South Championships.

Now that NJAC games have begun, Montclair is currently in sole possession of first place in the conference standings. After a doubleheader at home against Hunter College (6-6, 2-0 CUNYAC) on Thursday, the Lady Hawks may face their toughest so far this season.

On Saturday, they will host defending National Champion Rutgers-Camden (14-8, 3-1). With the NJAC Tournament just about four weeks away, Montclair State will look for as many wins as possible to place them into the NCAA tournament once more.

Top Performers

Carolyn McCrea - 7 IP, 3 H, 8 K
Maureen Shockley - 3-4, 1 RBI



courtesy of Sports Information
Jennifer Jimenez drove in two runs in the nightcap of Tuesday's doubleheader.